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NFR Finalists




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The show goes on



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Dear Editor...



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Are you ready for Y2K?



The Didsbury REVIEW

MRS H. DENCH
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1999

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AND THE BAND PLAYED ...
The Westglen School bands,
from Grade 5 to 8, performed to
a full house last Thursday night
at their annual Christmas Con-
cert. Photo by Nicole Smith

Many locals see hope for saving Didsbury hospital

By Nicole Smith

Emotions have been running high and tempers have been flaring around Didsbury for the past three weeks.

When Didsburians heard that Health Authority 5 may be closing down acute care and emergency services at the local hospital, a state of emergency soon ensued.

Word of the authority's possible plans was first heard at a meeting held on Nov. 24 between HA5 members and local dignitaries.

Apparently, the authority may be planning to turn the hospital into a long-term care facility exclusively. This would mean shipping all emergency cases and surgical patients up to the Olds Hospital, which is part of the David Thompson Health Region.

Since Didsburians heard that

the hospital may be closing two important wards, a fury of letters has been sent to the authority, as well as MLA Richard Marz, Premier Ralph Klein and provincial Health Minister Halvar Jonson.

Some dignitaries around town feel that this letter-writing campaign is exactly the step that needs to be taken, and are hopeful that this united voice can be heard.

Claude Baril, President of the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce, says that the hospital is too important to the survival of the town to be shutting down certain wards.

"The Didsbury Hospital is an intricate part of what Didsbury has to offer in terms of quality of life for everyone living here and the surrounding area," Baril said.

"It's time for us to show the

RHA5 and the Klein government that we're not prepared to compromise our health care any longer and we want it back to pre-cut levels."

Baril sympathizes with the people of Didsbury, in that the health authority and provincial government won't hear their concern.

"People are very concerned and very frustrated with their government and a system that's not prepared to hear their cries," Baril said.

"I believe that if we plan our approach accurately, then we'll be successful by having RHA5 seeing that the Didsbury hospital can be viable."

Baril encourages Didsburians to continue on with their campaign of letters, and feels that it will make a difference.

"It's time to let your government know there's good things

happening here. We've got doctors who can make this facility work."

Dorothy Moore is in complete agreement with Baril, giving Didsburians a tip on writing letters to government officials.

"Always be courteous. Always mention communication and accountability as what we require," she said.

Mayor Ray Lea believes that Didsburians cries are being heard at a higher level.

"I think that we're making progress," he said.

Lea says that a meeting is planned for Thursday night between officials from the Town of Didsbury, Mountain View County, the health authority, our local MLA and others. Lea hopes that some kind of plan can be worked out during the meeting as to know to keep our hospital as is.

"I think it's time that the board members stood up and take a good look at this," Lea said.

Lea continues assuring Didsburians that he will fight until the end for the hospital.

"Even if the board's decision is to close it, we're going to fight until the end," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned, the hospital is going to remain as is, until I can see differently. Didsbury's position is, as always, that emergency and acute care stay open."

Charles Vermeeren, an official for RHA5, says that the authority is planning to get public input on this decision "hopefully later in January."

Vermeeren also says that despite rumours that are flying, Jim Ramsbottom, CEO for RHA5, is still employed with the authority.



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In the courts ...

By Colleen Horrigan and
Dan Singleton

Youth attacked partygoer

A 17-year-old male who beat another boy at an outdoor party near Carstairs in April has admitted to assault.

The accused, who cannot be named, was with about 25 other people at the party when he punched the victim. After a time, the accused and another individual attacked the victim again, causing further injury.

The victim, who was known only slightly to the accused, received chipped teeth, black eyes and bruising. Medication for the victim cost \$1,956, prosecutor Chris Lee told the court.

The judge ordered that a pre-disposition report detailing the accused's past be prepared. The youth will be sentenced on Jan. 5, 2000.

Domestic dispute results in assault charge

A man entered a guilty plea to a charge of assault in Didsbury provincial court Dec. 8.

Murray Dale Kashuba was charged as a result of incidents that took place Feb. 17, 1999.

Crown prosecutor Shirley Jackson told the court that the RCMP attended the Kashuba residence after a 9-1-1 hang-up call, and when police arrived, Kashuba's wife told them an argument had become violent, so she called 9-1-1 but the accused took the phone from her and hung it up. She told police he had hit her on the head numerous times and that she feared for her life. This dispute happened in front of the couple's 2-year-old daughter.

While Kashuba did plead guilty to the assault charge, he disputed some of the details submitted by the Crown, and was upset that he hadn't been given a chance to tell his side of the story. Judge Frank Maloney ordered that a pre-sentence disposition report be made by a probation officer so he could determine an appropriate sentence. Kashuba will return to court Feb. 2, 2000 for sentencing.

Man fined after admitting to driving impaired

A man was handed fines after pleading guilty to charges of impaired driving and failing to appear for a previous court date in Didsbury provincial court Dec. 8.

Judge Maloney handed the accused, James Quigley, a total of \$825 in fines and surcharges after hearing details of the incident from Crown prosecutor Shirley Jackson.

The court heard on Sept. 19, 1998, the accused was pulled over by RCMP after they received a

call that he was impaired and leaving the Water Valley Saloon. Police noticed signs of impairment such as alcohol on his breath, swaying, and loud combative behaviour. He was read his rights and asked for a breath sample but refused.

Judge Maloney handed Quigley \$750 in fines, \$75 in victim fine surcharges and a three-month driving prohibition.

Man's blood alcohol was almost triple legal limit

A Didsbury man admitted to impaired care and control of a vehicle in court Dec. 8.

Jeffrey Alan Hunt, 34, was charged as a result of incidents that took place June 5, 1999.

The court heard that during routine patrol of Didsbury, police approached a running vehicle at about 11 a.m. and saw the two occupants quickly switch places. They then questioned the accused and he displayed signs of impairment.

When given the breathalyzer test, Hunt registered a blood alcohol level of 210 mg twice. Hunt's defence then told the court that although he had been in the driver's seat, Hunt had no intention of driving.

The vehicle belonged to Hunt's companion at the time, who was having trouble with the ignition so Hunt, being more mechanically inclined, got in the driver's seat to try starting the vehicle. It started and that was when the police drove up, so the men were startled and quickly switched spots.

Judge Maloney sentenced Hunt to a 14-day intermittent sentence, to be served each weekend from 8 p.m. Friday until 6 p.m. Sunday, a victim fine surcharge of \$35, and a six-month driving prohibition.

New Health Information Act introduced in legislature

The new Health Information Act was introduced recently in the Alberta Legislature. This legislation will ensure that the rules about the collection, use and sharing of health information are clear to all Albertans.

"This Act will set clear rules that everyone can understand about protecting personal privacy and making sure that health information can be used carefully and appropriately to improve care and management of Alberta's health system," explained Health and Wellness Minister Halvar Jonson.

The purposes of the new Health Information Act are to:

1. Provide every Albertan with a right to access their own health information.
2. Give people the right to ask for their health information to be corrected or amended.
3. Prescribe the rules for collection, use and disclosure of health information - in all cases, making sure that only the most limited information is collected, used and disclosed and with the highest degree of anonymity.
4. Enable health information to be shared where appropriate to provide health services and manage the health system.
5. Establish strong and effective mechanisms to protect the privacy of individuals' health information.
6. Establish strong and effective remedies if the rules are broken.
7. Provide for independent reviews of decisions made about health information and a process for resolving complaints.

The new Act is designed to build on the way that the health system works today but will

make certain that there are adequate safeguards in place. Custodians, who are the people responsible for maintaining and protecting health information, will explain to individuals why certain information is being collected. People will be asked to give their consent before their health information can be disclosed for certain purposes.

With more information now being stored and shared electronically in a variety of different sectors, special safeguards need to be in place with relation to health information. This Bill will ensure that an individual's consent will be required before his or her health information can be shared electronically.

In December of 1996, a discussion guide on the issue of health information entitled Striking the Right Balance was released and widely circulated. This document was brought forward in order to obtain the views and advice of the public on the issue and help shape the legislation.

Legislation across Canada and around the world was reviewed. Physicians, health authorities and a variety of health organizations were asked for their views. Fair information principles were

considered along with Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Draft health information legislation called Bill 30, the Health Information Protection Act was introduced for discussion purposes in June of 1997.

Following the initial consultation process on Bill 30, a multi-stakeholder Provincial Steering Committee was formed to oversee the development of a Health Information Act for Alberta. This committee was appointed by Minister Jonson in December of 1997.

A guide entitled Setting the Rules: What does Alberta's New Health Information Act Mean For You? has been created to provide direction in understanding the legislation. A shorter version of this guide is also available and additional copies of both are available by contacting Alberta Health Communications at (780) 427-7164.

"This legislation will make sure that our personal health information is carefully guarded and that it is used by only those who need it and only for specific purposes. Most important, we want to know what the rules are, who can access our health information and what they can use it for," said Jonson.

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Ambulances affected

By Nicole Smith

If Health Authority 5 goes through with its plans to close emergency and acute care services at the Didsbury Hospital, residents of Mountain View County may expect to see bigger ambulance bills.

Brian MacDonald, owner of Mountain View Ambulance Service, says that if the Didsbury Hospital closes its emergency services, county residents may see an increase in ambulance bills.

"More fuel means bigger bills," MacDonald said.

If DDHS closes its doors to emergency patients, ambulance drivers will then have to take patients to either Foothills Hospital in Calgary, the Olds Hospital or the Sundre Hospital.

MacDonald says that everyone who uses his ambulance services has the option of which hospital they would like to attend.

"Not too many people want to go to Olds," he said.

MacDonald equates this to the fact that the hospital has been full for the last two months, though he does say that there may be an improvement if the acute care beds move from Didsbury to Olds.

As to whether the health authority's decision will be a good one for his business, MacDonald is pretty quiet.

"I'm not going to comment on that right now," he said.

Agricore strike comes to an end

By Nicole Smith

After almost a month of strike action, many Agricore workers across Alberta and Manitoba have returned to work with a new contract in their hands.

Included with the hundreds of employees returning to work is our local grain elevator manager, who has been on strike for more than three weeks.

Strike action by Agricore employees officially ended on Dec. 8, when the company ratified its agreement with the Grain Services Union (GSU).

Negotiations have been ongoing for the past several months, but now officials say that "employees will now work to re-connect their teams and

concentrate on providing service to farmers and end-use customers."

Diane Wreford, Manager of Corporate Communications for Agricore, says the company is pleased that the end has finally come.

"We're all feeling really positive," Wreford said. "We're very pleased it's over."

Wreford says that the final contract, which the GSU was happy with, includes wages 6-16% above the industry average, overtime provisions that the union likes and job protection within the company.

Wreford says that Agricore heads were happy to see that the GSU dropped its demand to be on a pension committee, as well as seniority issues.

"It's a very balanced contract. It's good for the employees and good for the farmers," she said.

Wreford also says that no employee took a wage roll back once negotiations were settled, something that the GSU was worried about.

"Quite a few employees will be getting raises, in fact," she said.

Wreford says that Agricore officials are breathing a sigh of relief that the strike has come to an end and that everything is business as usual now across the two provinces.

"This is an agreement that will position us well throughout the industry," she said.

This newly-signed agreement will be in effect until Dec. 31, 2001.

David Thompson HR wants Didsbury beds

By Dan Singleton

The David Thompson Regional Health Authority (DTRHA) would like nothing better than to access long term care facilities at the Didsbury hospital, sending continuing care patients from across the district to the neighbouring health region facility, said DTRHA chairperson Jean Graham.

"From the David Thompson perspective we really do need more long term care beds," Graham said Friday. "We know that Didsbury is a beautiful long term care facility so that's one of the options we're looking at."

The Regional Health Author-

ity #5 is considering a proposal to shut the door on the Didsbury hospital's acute care and emergency room facilities.

Last month there were more than 120 patients awaiting placement in continuing care beds in the David Thompson Health Region, which includes Olds and Sundre hospitals.

The DTRHA recently announced it was opening 17 temporary long term care beds in Olds to address bed shortages.

"They're a temporary arrangement because they're not the best environment, so if we could access the long term care beds in Didsbury, which are built for a long term care client, it's a much nicer environment

for them to live in." Graham said both boards are continuing to investigate options.

"We're still exploring," said Graham. "We're optimistic, let's put it that way. At this point in time we're still waiting reports back from our management so we can weigh the pros and cons, look at the benefit for the people in the region, look at the financial implications."

"The two boards, at separate meetings, agreed to have our management explore different options on how we can best serve the needs of the people in the region."

"Until we have all that material to look at, we won't be making any decisions, and whatever

decision we make, I'm sure I know I speak for my region, any decision that my region makes be made definitely will be having the patient first, what's best for the patient."

Richard Marz, Tory MLA for Olds-Didsbury, said he will be meeting with RHA #5 officials and municipal officials to discuss the Didsbury hospital situation. "I've got a number of concerns I'm going to put across to them," said Marz. "I've got a number of options I will be tabling for discussion. If they don't want to go one direction it's a matter of looking at some other options."

"I would like to urge everybody to remain calm and allow

this type of communication to take place. I know this is an emotional issue," he added.

Responding to concerns raised by some stakeholders that the RHA is not being responsive to public concerns, Marz said, "I would hope they (RHA) would provide some time and an avenue for individuals, once they have a copy of the proposal, to ask questions or phone in to find some specific questions out, to respond back to it, without bias or without intimidation, because there's a bit of that seeming to happen."

"Not everybody holds the same view on this thing, and some are more open minded to looking at a long term vision that is different than other people's long term vision."

Didsbury High School may get new gym in 2005

...and other school board notes

By Nicole Smith

New gym in 2005?

At last Wednesday's regular meeting of the Chinook's Edge School Board, a presentation on priorities for Modernization and Capital Submissions made by Assistant Superintendent Lyall Thomson, the board heard that the Didsbury High School may be getting a facelift in 2004.

Thomson presented a list of schools in the order that they will receive modernization.

He says that some schools have to wait because there are others in the division that are much older.

"Every town would like to have theirs done first, but you have to do it based on needing something like (modernization)," Thomson said.

A suggested date for DHS would be sometime in the year of 2004. Thomson also said that DHS students may expect to have a new gym in 2005.

"Nothing is set in stone," Thomson said.

Schools to begin modernization procedures in the next three years are: Olds Elementary, Spruce View School, Innisfail High School and Delburne and River Valley.

Thomson says that the board will be asking for \$50 million in funding over 10 years to com-

plete these modernizations.

"I believe if you don't ask, you don't get," he said.

"I don't want to hesitate too long and I don't want to wait," Thomson said of the modernization proposals.

Facelift

The board also saw a presentation on how the renovations at Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs are progressing.

Upgrades are being done to the staff room, computer rooms, the library, as well as many hallways throughout the building.

"Things are progressing along quite nicely," said Thomson.

According to Thomson, these renovations were a long time coming for Hugh Sutherland.

"There was a real need to modernize this building," he said. Concern was heard from School Board Chair Roy Brassard about the renovations.

"All this building must be having a tremendous impact on the learning at the school," Brassard said.

Thomson said that the students are doing just fine with their studies and the noise and confusion doesn't seem to bother them too much.

"These kids are more resilient than many of the teachers," Thomson responded.

Renovations at Hugh Sutherland School will continue on into the new year.

Summer Program

Chinook's Edge will play host to the 2000 Alberta Masters Summer Program next July.

The board had a request from Dr. Ray Latta, Head of San Diego State University International Masters Program that CESD host next summer's program.

Traditionally, any teacher wishing to pursue a Master's Degree had to travel to San Diego for schooling there.

Next year's program for first year Master's candidates will be held at Innisfail High School.

The program will include teachers from our school division, as well as ones from other divisions across Alberta.

The board expects to see 80-100 students for three weeks in late July next year.

Trustee Stuart Little made a motion for the board to host next summer's program. This motion was carried unanimously.

Entrance Age

A motion was carried for investigation into a Dec. 31 birthdate deadline for students entering Grade 1

throughout the division.

This would mean students entering Grade 1 would have to be six-years-old by Dec. 31 of that school year.

This decision was made because a number of surrounding school boards have chosen Dec. 31 as their deadline.

"We've bounced ours around so much. Let's get one and stay with it," said Trustee Penny Archibald.

Before this decision can be final, it has to go to the policy committee for review.

"Draft" report

A presentation of the 1998/99 "Draft" Annual Education Results Report was made to the board by Dot Negropontes, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for CESD.

"It's a chance for you to look at the past year and feel very good about what you've accomplished," said Negropontes.

The draft was accepted as information only by the board.

Solicitors unwanted

Chair Brassard requested a motion to send a "strong letter of concern" to a cellular phone salesperson within the division, who had put the Chinook's Edge logo on her flyers.

Brassard felt that teachers

and administration within the division may feel that these phones are endorsed by the board, when in fact, the salesperson had no permission to use the logo.

CESD policy says that no solicitation is allowed in the schools without the principal's permission.

The board passed this motion and will also be sending letters to CESD employees about this issue.

Opposition visit

The board heard that principals in the division received a request from Alberta Liberal Critic Dr. Don Massey that he and his colleagues have a meeting with the board in the new year to discuss local education issues.

Chair Brassard felt some concern about how the issue was handled.

"We resent anybody, particularly a political organization, going directly to our schools requesting information and looking into it without going through the board first," Brassard said.

The board has decided to meet with the official opposition, as well as our own political candidate, sometime in the new year at a regular board meeting.

OPINIONS EDITORIAL

A good read



Nicole
SMITH

Surprise, surprise. I have a few more comments to make on the possibility of our hospital becoming a long-term care facility in the near future.

This past week I had the opportunity to peek at the health authority's new three-year business plan titled, "Refining the Spectrum."

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Mr. Jim Ramsbottom, the CEO of HA5, for making this

information open to the public. Maybe this will be a new beginning for the authority in letting the people of Didsbury know what its plans are for us, and not hide behind a veil of secrecy as it has been doing lately.

The business plan made no specific reference to our hospital closing down some of its services, but I suppose, it could be read between the lines.

I thought I would give Didsburians a snippet of what is in the business plan, and maybe you will all find it as ironic as I do.

In the Vision, Mission and Description section of the plan, under a heading titled HA5 Values it reads: "People have the right of equal access to health services," and "People have the right to live and work in conditions which support health."

Okay, so if we have the right to equal access to health services, I guess we're going to have to move somewhere else in the authority. Maybe we should all move to Drumheller. I'm sure there is equal access to services there.

At the very beginning of the report, in the summary of the Directions taken in the business plan, it reads: "... sustain an accessible, quality health care system for our number one priority - the patients and residents of HA5."

I had to shake my head at that one. If we are the authority's number one priority, then why are our cries for help not being heard? And, why did we have to find out about the authority's plans through the rumour mill?

In this next part of the summary, you can see what I mean about reading between the lines. It says, "... allocate resources based on regional based needs, priorities and provincial directions."

Well, I guess at least it is in the plan somewhere and the thought of closing services at our hospital isn't just an idea that Mr. Ramsbottom pulled out of his hat, as many of us once thought.

The final excerpt I thought you might find interesting is: "Access to services is a critical factor for all Health Authorities. Accordingly, HA5 annually reviews its resource allocations and program distribution. Part of this is exploring with other regions mutually useful ways of providing services ..."

Hi, David Thompson Health Region? I have a few hundred emergency and acute care patients. Would you mind taking them off our hands?

Anyways, I found this business plan to be quite interesting. If you don't mind reading between the lines, you should call the HA5 office and request your own copy of it. They can be reached toll-free at 1-877-777-5395. This information is open to the public, so hopefully you shouldn't have a hard time getting a copy.

Also, Evan Parliament, CAO for the Town of Didsbury, says that the plan can be viewed at Town Office by Didsburians.

Have a look for yourselves. I'm sure you'll find it fascinating.

The opinions expressed on this page are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper or the publisher.

MacBeth vows to fight for public health care

On Dec. 8, Official Opposition Leader Nancy MacBeth vowed that the end of the fall session of the Legislature is only the beginning of the fight against two-tier, American-style health care in Alberta.

"The Klein government's proposed health policy and Bill 40 make it clear that this government is drunk with its own power and prepared to defy Albertans," she said.

"The Klein government utterly failed to make any case for their proposed health care scheme. We offered study after study that showed the strengths of a strong public system and

they offered non-answers to the questions on the minds of Albertans. Time and again the Premier refused to debate me on the issue. This government just doesn't have an answer to the question of why it would rather subsidize private, for-profit hospital operators instead of supporting the public system."

Reflecting on Bill 40 and the government's use of closure to ram through the seriously flawed legislation, MacBeth warned that this is "a taste of what lies ahead in Alberta as the government tries to ram through a bill creating a two-tier health care system. Alber-

tans need to consider carefully the Klein government's heavy handed actions and whether they want to trust this government with the future of public health care in Alberta."

"In the days and weeks ahead we will be taking the fight for public health care out from under the Dome and into communities across the province," MacBeth promised. "In the final analysis Albertans will judge this government at the ballot box."

MacBeth also indicated that plans for her "Fighting for Public Health Care" campaign will be announced shortly.

Crack down on youth smoking

In light of the recent passage of Bill 208, a private member's bill to ban tobacco possession among youth, ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) is calling on the Alberta government to introduce complementary legislation to protect children from the predatory marketing practices of the tobacco industry.

Health Canada revealed a scourge of youth marketing tactics employed by Canadian tobacco companies in its recent release of the Guildford Documents (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca>).

ASH feels that the tobacco industry must be held accountable for its actions and is urging the provincial government to take immediate steps to prohibit youth marketing by tobacco companies.

"The debate on Bill 208 has raised the profile of the tobacco issue in Alberta" said Les Hagen, executive director.

"We hope that this discussion will convince the Klein government to make smoking prevention a top priority" Hagen added. "Children deserve protection from the predatory marketing practices of the tobacco industry and immediate action is warranted."

Alberta and Saskatchewan are the only remaining governments in Canada that have not introduced tobacco control legislation within the past decade.

The Alberta government presently applies more re-

sources to pest control and poaching than to efforts to redress the leading avoidable cause of disease, disability and premature death - tobacco use.

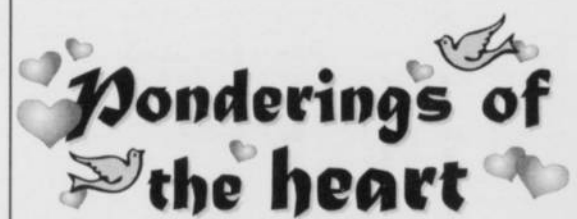
Standalone laws banning tobacco possession among youth have proven to be ineffective. ASH contends that comprehensive legislation, combined with effective education, mass media, and enforcement strategies is the only effective way to reduce youth smoking rates.

ASH supports the provincial policy framework developed by the Alberta Tobacco Reduction Alliance, a coalition of over 70 health organizations.

The evidence-based framework calls for smoking bans in workplaces and public areas, effective tobacco control legislation, tobacco tax increases, and increased funding for prevention, public education, and stop-smoking programs.

In Alberta, smoking rates among 15-19 year olds increased from 24% in 1991 to 29% in 1996/97. At least 8,000 adolescents start smoking each year in the province.

Action on Smoking & Health is Western Canada's leading health organization devoted to smoking prevention and reduction.



What is important?

By Margaret Fradley

Once again, we look forward to the Christmas season; our days are getting busier with urgent demands on every side.

Putting up lights, preparing decorations, buying, writing and sending cards, and choosing gifts - we often feel under the pressure of the "urgency of the moment". Sometimes we even hear, "Oh, I'll be glad when it is all over." This could be an indication that we have left the importance of the season behind, and become overly involved in the seeming "urgency of the season".

How do we separate the "seemingly urgent" from the important issues in our lives? There are times when we have to be able to say "no" to the "urgent" and make time for the important.

Christmas with all its beauty and joy, the wonder of the Christmas story, can pass us by with how busy we are with everything else.

Let's look forward to and enjoy Christmas for what it was meant to be and celebrate in a special way, making time for family and friends, and above all remembering "the reason for the season" - the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.



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FROM THE MAILBAG

Support from Didsbury 'amazing'

Dear Editor,

The support of the people of Didsbury and area never ceases to amaze me.

Three years ago, Ceilidh McClurg, the past editor of the Didsbury Review, spearheaded the Didsbury Adopt-a-Family program.

With a lot of work and recruited "helpers" such as myself, the Didsbury Adopt-a-Family program was established.

The first year, the program was able to match about six families. In its second year in 1998, we were able to more than double those numbers.

This, the third year of operation for the Didsbury Adopt-a-Family program, has been able to make 14 matches. I appreciate those who have put names forward, and I especially appreciate those who have been sponsors to the program in both years past and this year.

This support mentioned does not even begin to acknowledge those who have volunteered to help me with the program or the financial contributions that we have had from various people and organizations.

This program has been a great success, and this year, we will be working in cooperation with the Christmas Helpers program to ensure that we can put smiles on as many faces as we can this holiday season.

The elves of the Adopt-a-Family program will be doing the deliveries on about Dec. 22. Ceilidh has moved on from the community, but has entrusted that I will continue on with the program.

I have recruited some other "helpers", but if you are able to give us a hand with deliveries and wrapping, the help would be appreciated.

There is still some time to register if you would like to be a sponsor or if you know of a family who would appreciate a little help this holiday season. To put names forth, you can call Alana Hagel at the Town Office at 335-3391.

Sincerely,

Alana Hagel,

Didsbury Adopt-a-Family Program

Shabby treatment for Didsburians, says resident

Dear Editor,

As a Didsbury resident since 1967, I do protest the shabby treatment Didsbury has received since we got involved with Health region 5.

You must realize the hardships closing down the acute care portion of our hospital will cause if doctors cannot admit patients into acute care at our hospital. They will not stay. That would be a joke - an area of 12,000 people with no doctors.

I know a lot of seniors moved to Didsbury because of the facilities that were available to them. With no public transportation, what are they supposed to do - go out to the four way stop and thumb a ride to Olds to go see a doctor?

It's not like we are asking for a new hospital to be built. We have one, and we want it to remain an acute care hospital. We deserve it.

The provincial government has received billions of dollars out of this area alone out of royalties paid by oil companies into the provincial coffers.

I know of what I speak. I spent 36 years producing the oil and gas that fuelled Alberta's economy - and you people want us to live like second class citizens.

I also know of surgeons from Calgary wanting to utilize the operation room at our hospital and being denied access. Why?

You people must think Didsbury area people are mushrooms. Region 5 has kept us in the dark for years and fed us excrement. Ladies and gentlemen, you will find us slow to anger, but when we do, watch out. We are angry, and we will do whatever is necessary to get things put right.

Sincerely,

Cliff and Eileen Howie,
Didsbury, AB

Holiday praises and request

Dear Friends,

Some Praises: The government has not challenged the sharia law in the courts. It seems that they want to let the State experience this form of law, and find out that it will be very difficult here in Nigeria.

May God continue to give wisdom and insight to our leaders here.

The Connections' lock-in was postponed until next semester because Janet had to go to the States.

We are grateful that she was able to get tickets on short notice and the trip was without difficulties. We praise God that Janet's father has made significant physi-

cal improvement. We pray that some mental problems will also be solved.

The events at Hillcrest: the food fair, the play, and the craft sale have all gone very well. We thank God for the positive attitudes displayed, and the hard work that has been done.

Requests: Please pray for Janet and her family in Los Angeles. All six of the children are with their father just now and he has made some progress. There will probably need to be some tough decisions made. Please pray for wisdom. Please also pray that Janet will get some rest. She arrived exhausted and faced emotional crises right away. Please

also pray for the salvation of her family. Only her older sister is a Christian, so they will be witnessing to the other family members, some of whom are fairly antagonistic.

Please pray that during this busy time of the school year, students and teachers alike will remember to give thanks for God's great gift to mankind. With programs, special events, exams, and travel plans, sometimes we lose sight of the reason for this special time of year.

May God grant you and yours a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Dan & Janet Snyder

Christmas excitement

Dear Editor,

Christmas is drawing near and with all the wonderful weather we are all trying to catch the excitement of Christmas.

You may like to be a part of the annual gift wrapping Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Zion Evangelical Missionary Church. All hands are needed to wrap each present that will go to our estimated 80 hampers. The excitement abounds as families gather to wrap the toys and gifts for each person. Why not be a part of this team? See you there at 7 p.m.

Or maybe you find yourself alone this Christmas and would like to spend Christmas Day Dec. 25 with friends. The annual Old Time Christmas Dinner is designed for you. Located at the Didsbury Elks Hall you will find many smiling faces and a home cooked meal to transform your day into a treasure house of fond memories. I look forward to spending my Christmas Day with many friends there. Please bring a wrapped white elephant gift for trading.

Needed this year - toys new or good used, gifts for adults and teens. Please drop off at the post office. Urgently needed cash or cheque donations to buy turkeys and extra food for the hampers. This can be taken to the Zion Evangelical Missionary Church.

Thanks to all our community who as a team have made this program a success in the past. The reason for forming Christmas Helpers was to show our neighbours love and concern in action. If you know of a family or individual who could use this kind of help please phone the Zion Church at 335-3629 or Linda Sirt at 335-2378 or 335-4832. All names need to be in by Dec. 18.

Thank you in advance for all the support and generosity shown to those in our area.

Sincerely,

Linda Sirt and

Linda Regner,
Didsbury, AB

Former board protesting HA5

Dear Mr. Jonson,

The writers of this letter are the members of the disbanded board of the former Mountainview Health Care Centre in Didsbury.

We are writing to you to protest the proposal by RHA 5 to close the active component of the hospital in Didsbury.

The former board was very aware of the importance of the active hospital to the community but was also aware that some form of regionalization was inevitable. Talks had been taking place for a considerable time with adjoining jurisdictions including Calgary, Olds, Three Hills, Sundre, and Red Deer. Over a period of two years certain verities became apparent to the board members. The first truth was geographical - whichever way regions were formed, Didsbury was on the edge and not in the centre. Second truth was attitudinal - the board members felt that some neighbours had already slotted Didsbury into the wholly long term care mode. The premier of the province changed, the Minister changed, back to square one with a difference, the difference being this government had a plan. The board was given an option as to which region to enter. The board honourably, for

rational reasons and in good faith chose to go north but east, it had been made clear that south was impossible. What became RHA 5 had the philosophy of keeping active hospitals open. That was the deciding factor.

It is now apparent that the active part of the Didsbury hospital has become unimportant to the RHA 5 Board based in Drumheller.

The former board had purchased contemporary surgical equipment and had increased utilization of the operating room by allowing surgeons from Calgary to come and perform surgery in an excellent but rural facility.

This helped everyone involved especially the patients who did not have to wait for as long as in the city.

Long before the former board was terminated, it had become apparent that both Didsbury and Carstairs were attracting those who were retiring. There were plans to build (some were already built) various senior complexes in both towns.

Seniors are an asset to communities including an economic asset. They spend money in the towns. They pay their bills on time. They like to keep their properties nice. They do not create

mayhem in the streets. They do not vandalize. They bring stability. They volunteer in churches, service organizations, libraries, museums.

Above all, they vote. Seniors are a very important power block and are going to become even more so in the next twenty years.

Seniors are attracted to this area because of the hospital and availability of doctors.

RHA 5 has been high-handed and lacking in basic courtesy in its handling of this situation. The people who live here are entitled to be treated like stakeholders by those whose salaries and considerable honoraria they help pay.

They are entitled to know rationale and facts and figures and to have face to face explanations at public meetings the time and place of which are published well in advance and at which there is an opportunity to speak for everyone who wishes to do so.

Sincerely, from a former board,

F.S. Earle (Mick),
Patricia Barr,
Marion Scott,
W. Douglas Waite,
Bill Cowan,
John E. Kohut,
Wayne Layden,
Didsbury, AB

Didsbury is a great place to live

Dear Editor,

Didsbury is my home. I am happy to live here. Every year more streets and sidewalks are being improved. Nearly every week new houses are "popping up". Our town has an attractiveness which even visitors notice. Thanks to everyone who

does anything to make it that way.

The decorations of the season make our "home" a showcase of Christmas beauty. A recent visitor remarked, "the people here must have a high degree of pride in their town." I assured them we do.

The new year of 2000 is almost here.

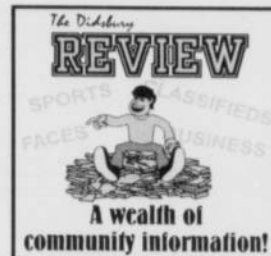
It is wonderful to be assured of the unlikelihood of any serious disruption of the supply of electricity, natural gas and water.

Please join me in giving a genuine "thank you" to the

Town, businesses, service people, church and community leaders, who do so much for our well being, enjoyment and safety.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

Sincerely,
N. Willard Swalm,
Didsbury, AB



TOWN OF DIDSBURY



Town Office: 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Shop Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Landfill Site Hours: 1 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat

335-3391
335-8343

Didsbury Aquatic Centre Schedule
Memorial Complex & Aquatic Centre
Library Hours: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tues-Sat, Wed, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

335-8653
335-7369
335-3142

Lions Recycling Centre
Main Street Project Office
Rosebud Valley Campground

335-8193
335-3265
335-8578



DIDSBURY MEMORIAL COMPLEX HOLIDAY HOURS OF OPERATION

Holiday Schedules are in effect from December 20 - December 30, 1999. Please pick up your Arena and Aquatic Centre holiday schedules at the Memorial Complex

The Aquatic Centre will be hosting a special event - Surf'n Santa on Saturday, December 18 from 1 - 3 p.m. Please be advised that Public Swimming for this period of time is cancelled and a special admission rate of \$6 is in effect to attend the Surf'n Santa event!

The facilities will be closed during the holiday season as follows:

AQUATIC CENTRE

• Friday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.

ARENA & AQUATIC CENTRE:

- Friday, December 24 at 3 p.m.
- Christmas Day
- Friday, December 31 at 3 p.m.
- New Year's Day



New Development Permit Applications

The following Development Permits have been issued for the following proposed developments:

DP 110 - 99 1509 Mary Place Single Family Dwelling R2

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office, 2037 19 Ave. or by calling 335-3391. Persons wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing to the secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 4:30 p.m. on December 29, 1999.
Robert Wigg - Development Officer

MEMORIAL COMPLEX

Town Council and Administration, together with Memorial Complex personnel, are pleased to inform Didsbury & Area that the services provided through the Memorial Complex will continue to be provided under the new department title of Recreation & Facility Services effective January 1, 2000. For recreation and/or recreation facility needs, enquiries, and concerns, please call our Recreation and Facility Services department at 335-7369.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Didsbury invites applications for the new and exciting position of Recreation & Facility Services Programmer! Recreation Administration or equivalent experience and technical qualifications as well as supervisory and programming experience in a variety of recreation environments are considered essential qualifications for this position.

Rhonda Hunter,
Recreation & Facility Service Manager
Box 790
Didsbury, AB
TQM 0W0

Application deadline December 24, 1999

AQUATIC CENTRE

Please be advised of the following swimming lesson fee increases effective Session #2 (various starting dates in February) of 2000:

	Present	Feb. 2000
Beach Tot Lessons (preschool)	\$24.00	\$26.00
AquaQuest Levels 1-6	\$24.00	\$26.00
AquaQuest Levels 7-9	\$29.00	\$31.00
AquaQuest Levels 10-12	\$31.50	\$33.50

Schedule Information: 335-3653;
Registration Information: 335-7369

DIDSBURY AQUATIC CENTRE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE December 20, 1999 to January 2, 2000



MON	TUES 21	WED 22	THURS 23	FRI 24	SAT 25	SUN 26	MON 27	TUES 28	WED 29	THURS 30	FRI 31	SAT 1	SUN 2
Early Bird 7-9	Early Bird 6-9	Early Bird 7-9	Early Bird 6-9	MERRY CHRISTMAS			Early Bird 7-9	Early Bird 6-9	Early Bird 7-9	Early Bird 6-9	Early Bird 6-9	HAPPY NEW YEAR	
Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12	Public 10-3 Rentals Before 10	POOL CLOSED		Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12	Xmas Fun 9-12			
Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1				Rentals Before 1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	Lap/Family 12-1	
Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Public 10-3		Public 1-5:30	Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Xmas Fun 1-4	Public 1-5	POOL CLOSED	Family 2-3:30
Public 2-5	Public 2-5	Public 2-5	Public 2-5		Rentals After 8:30	Public 2-5	Public 2-5	Public 2-5	Public 2-5				Public 3:30-5:30
Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6			Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6	Rentals 5-6				Rentals 5:30-7
Family 6-8	Family 6-8	Family 6-8	Family 6-8			Family 6-8	Family 6-8	Family 6-8	Family 6-8				Family 7-8:30
Teen 8-9	Adult 8-9	Teen 8-9	Adult 8-9			Teen 8-9	Adult 8-9	Teen 8-9	Adult 8-9				Rentals After 8:30
Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9			Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9	Rentals After 9				

SPECIAL RENTAL RATES - DEC. 1st to DEC. 31st, 1999

Up to 40 people - \$77.00/hour with slide
Up to 80 people - \$105.00/hour with slide
Up to 120 people - \$130.00/hour with slide

SPECIAL PASS PRICES - DEC. 1st to DEC. 31st, 1999 (LIMIT 2 PER CUSTOMER)

Adult 10 Swim Pass - \$22.00
Senior/Youth 10 Swim Pass - \$17.50
AquaQuest 10 Pass - \$25.00



Town Office
Town of Didsbury
Public Meetings

Regular Council: Dec. 22
Community Services: Dec. 28
Protective Services: Dec. 21

Visit our Web Site!
www.town.didsbury.ab.ca

FROM THE MAILBAG

Notes from Nigeria

Dan and Janet Snyder are Didsburians who are missionaries in Nigeria. They are working at a school in Jos, Nigeria for the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada, and Dan is teaching math and English, while Janet runs the library for the whole school. Both have been in the country periodically doing the mission work since the late 70s. The couple met while working in Nigeria and married in December 1995. Their latest excursion set out on May 15 last year and they will return to Didsbury in May of 2000 for a three month furlough. They will return to Nigeria and will remain there until 2006. The Snyders send weekly letters to their family telling about their day to day experiences, and we at the Review believe it will be of interest to our readers.

Dear Friends,

This was the last week of classes; exams start Monday morning. All the library books were due this week and Cynthia, the lady who is helping look after the library, gained a new appreciation of how much work is involved for the librarian at the end of a semester.

Wednesday and Thursday were very hectic. It seems that most of the students have taken care of the overdue books and the fines. However, Cynthia is planning to be in the library by 7:30 Monday morning to be ready for the last-minute crowd. We expect that things will go smoothly.

Janet phoned Saturday night. She and her sister, Lisa, were able to get their father into a care facility close to where Lisa lives. Lisa visited him a couple days later and he seems to be settling in okay.

Janet's brothers left, so she has some peace for a while. She's cleaning and organizing. Thursday she'll get a break when she and Lisa and two of Lisa's children go to Disneyland for the day. After what Janet has been through, she deserves that and more.

Thanks to many of you for your prayers; they have been answered.

Janet is planning to be with Lisa and her husband, Bill, for the Y2K weekend. Bill is all prepared for Y2K with batteries, inverters, solar panels, a generator, and enough food for at least six months.

I'm hoping that the new millennium will come in with no hassles. In fact, I'm hoping to buy a couple of the pure sine-wave inverters that people are buying now. When February and March come, these people will be looking to sell the Y2K things.

The inverter that we have here got a workout this morning when the power was off for four hours. It keeps the fridge and the lights going, which is very helpful. Getting ready for Sunday School and church in the dark wouldn't be any fun.

Teaching about Canada has been a learning experience for me these last eight weeks. The Atlantic provinces were kind of a haze before, but now I know where they are, what's special about each of them, and when they joined the confederation.

It has also been a learning experience for me to teach this particular group of students. Some of them have learning disabilities, so I used more of a project-based approach.

Many of the students did better than with a lecture approach. Some days my patience was tried. One day, when I was being evaluated by the Principal, a student asked the same question three times.

Even I was amazed that I answered her kindly all three times. God is definitely at work in my life.

I think all of us are looking forward to the Christmas break from School. It will be good to contemplate Christ's coming.

It will also be great to rest and relax for a couple of weeks. I may even get some of those jobs around the house done before Janet comes back. Have a great Christmas!

HA5 launches new Seniors Drug Profile program this week

By Nicole Smith

A new program was launched at the Didsbury Hospital Monday that is geared specifically towards the seniors in our community.

The Seniors Drug Profile is a new emergency room computer application program that will provide information to health care professionals about a patient's medication history.

According to John Blaenkinsopp, Team Leader of Acute Care at DDHS, this new program is going to be a real benefit

to seniors in Didsbury.

"It will increase access and quality of care we can give," Blaenkinsopp said.

On their next trip to the hospital, seniors will have the option of signing a consent form for the program. If they decide to sign up for the program, all prescriptions that are paid for under the Alberta Blue Cross Coverage for Seniors (Group 66) will be available to hospital staff.

Blaenkinsopp says that the new program will really help stop drug re-

actions that seniors may have due to mixing medication.

"This program will let us access an up-to-date picture of what's been dispensed," he said.

Blaenkinsopp assures seniors that the information they give is completely confidential, and only emergency room staff can access it.

He says that although this program is only available to seniors across Alberta presently, there is a hope that it will expand to all individuals in the future.

The Seniors Drug Profile was designed by Alberta WellNet, with input from Alberta Health and Wellness, health professionals and Alberta Blue Cross.

More information on the program can be accessed through Alberta WellNet at toll-free 310-0000 or on-line at www.albertawellnet.org.

Blaenkinsopp recommends the program to seniors in Didsbury.

"It's a really good thing," he said. "It's a good thing for seniors in the community."

Special status given to Didsbury's Community Constable

By Nicole Smith

After two weeks of intensive training, Didsbury's Community Constable Greg Hnatiuk has been granted special constable status.

Hnatiuk was in Edmonton for a couple of weeks taking a Legal Studies course at the Alberta Justice College.

This was only the first of a three part program, the other two segments are to be completed early next year.

"It was very interest-

ing and intense," said Hnatiuk.

He says that a lot of the things he learned in this course, is what they teach new RCMP recruits in Regina.

"I learned in eight days what they learn in six months in Regina," he said.

Hnatiuk says that upon completion of the course, he now has "expanded authority to enforce different Acts."

Some of this new authority includes being

able to enforce any traffic violations, like blowing a stop sign or having open alcohol in a vehicle.

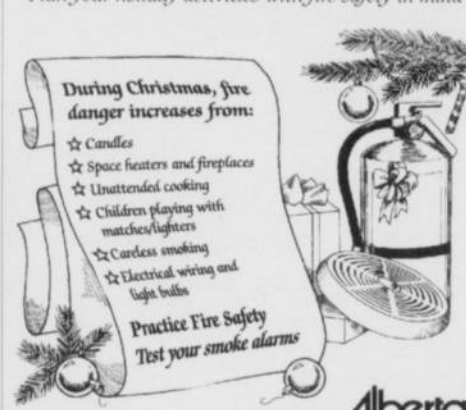
Hnatiuk was sent north by the Town of Didsbury, so that as Community Constable, he will be able to assist

the RCMP whenever necessary.

He will be heading back to Edmonton in January to complete the "Human Relations" part of the course and then back again in March to take part in the "Officer's Safety" segment.

TAKE CARE this Holiday Season

Plan your holiday activities with fire safety in mind



THANKS

Fire Chief Rick Mousseau, Mayor Ray Lea, Councillor Peter Versluys were on hand last Wednesday evening to accept a cheque for \$2,000 from Michelle Coughlin, from TransCanada Midstream. The donation dollars will go towards the purchase of a mobile repeater for the Didsbury Volunteer Fire Department.

Photo by Nicole Smith

Alberta
GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT NATURAL RESOURCES SERVICE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Each year, Natural Resources Service - Bow Region, offers opportunities for private sector involvement in its operations, maintenance, and construction programs.

Standard format Alberta Environment contracts have been available in the following areas: Trades related maintenance and repairs for building and utility operations; Grass, weed and pest control; Landscaping maintenance; Trail and pathway maintenance, upgrading and redevelopment; Roadway and bridge maintenance, upgrading and redevelopment; Building and utility upgrading and construction; Excavating, drainage control, and erosion repairs; and Professional Engineering and Architectural services.

Many of the contracts tendered or proposals solicited by Operations Support - Bow Region are from established bidder lists, which have been prepared from responses received to this request.

To be considered on the types of opportunities listed above, or to be included on the bidders list, please forward a company profile which includes, as a minimum, the type of work of interest and a statement of qualifications. Please ensure that the statement of qualifications includes insurance, bonding, liability, Workers Compensation Board and safety, prequalifications of your firm.

Commencing April 1, 2001, contractors will require "Certificates of Recognition" to provide services to the Department.

Expressions of interest will be received by the Manager of Operations Support - Bow Region, Alberta Environment, Suite 100, 2115 - 12 Street N.E., Calgary, Alberta T2E 7J2, until January 31, 2001.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Ian Britton, Program Support and Contract Coordinator at (403) 678-5506 toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000 first.

Many essential services say Y2K is no big deal

By Colleen Horrigan

Fears of mayhem and service interruption when the clock strikes midnight on Dec. 31 are unfounded, according to representatives from utility companies, banks, the Hospital and the Town.

Wes Yeoman, chairman for the Town's Y2K Contingency Planning Committee, said the group is confident there will be no problems, but they do have a plan in place as a safety net.

"The conclusion the committee came to is that there shouldn't be any technical problems that night. Every service provider is quite confident there won't be any disruption in services," Yeoman said.

In the Town's disaster plan, the Memorial Complex is designated as the reception centre, but Yeoman notes this does not mean everyone in Didsbury should flock there if something happens.

"The Mayor has to officially declare a state of disaster," Yeoman said, explaining that Didsburians would be notified of this by radio announcements and the fire siren. For this reason, Yeoman recommends every household have a battery-operated radio and spare batteries on hand.

If utilities are not functioning throughout the town for an extended period of time, the Complex is equipped with a generator and other emergency supplies.

Yeoman said the plans put forth by the committee apply to any disaster, not just Y2K problems. The committee consists of members from the RCMP, Didsbury and District Health Services, Chinook's Edge, and Town staff, and will likely continue to exist as a Disaster Services Committee.

Spokespeople from Telus, TransAlta, and ATCO Gas have all said that no problems are expected and the utility companies are as ready as they can be for Y2K.

Trem Quinlan, with Y2K Communications for Telus, said that while Telus is confident their service will not be interrupted, there are a few things customers should be aware of.

She said people should make sure to check their own telephone and communications equipment but that most devices should be fine.

"In general, residential phones get their data directly from Telus," she said.

"I think what most of us are concerned of is that people might overreact," Quinlan said, referring to the possibility of phone line congestion causing people to think service is down. In other words, if everyone picks up the phone at midnight to see if it works, the congestion may cause temporary delays. "We're encouraging people to plan their calls appropriately," she said.

Telus is not dependent on other utilities working and has always had stand-by power, according to Quinlan.

TransAlta's Calgary area network services coordinator,

Dwayne Mack, says that all critical systems responsible for the generation and distribution of electricity are ready for the change to the year 2000, and that the company is not expecting a power outage. However, because of the very complicated nature of the electrical system, TransAlta can't guarantee an uninterrupted supply of power.

In the event that a power outage does occur, TransAlta has arranged for representatives to be on hand in many urban and rural Alberta communities, including Didsbury, so that any problems can be rectified as quickly as possible.

"We expect Y2K to be a non-event, but if something happens, we will be there to help provide a safety net for the community. If people lost power and communications, they can come to the community response centre and tell a TransAlta representative right away," Mack explained. "Representatives will carry analog radios that are part of TransAlta's mobile communications system so they can contact the nearest area command centre to report the problem."

Otherwise, customers are encouraged to follow the usual procedure for reporting power outages, which is to call 1-800-332-1002.

All the extra representatives stationed across Alberta, as well as extra staff handling customer inquiries, teams of linemen and technical specialists will add up to a working employee count five times the usual number of around-the-clock staff.

Mack said TransAlta is encouraging people not to overreact, and to prepare themselves as they would for any unexpected power outage. Having a family emergency plan is recommended. According to a brochure distributed by TransAlta, people should do the following in case of an emergency:

- Be informed - listen to local radio stations for emergency instructions, post emergency numbers by phones, and know your community's evacuation routes.

- Have an emergency plan, including arranging meeting places with family members in case of separation.

- Maintain a supply of emergency items, such as medication, battery-powered radio and flashlight, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, waterproof matches, candles and tin can, a three-day supply of food and water for each family member, an alternative heat source and an adequate supply of fuel.

- Be prepared to evacuate, and don't assume it will only be for a few hours. Bring warm clothing, food, cash and credit cards, toys, games and reading material, pet food, and also make sure your vehicle is fuelled and well-equipped for winter driving.

- Ensure that your home is Y2K ready. This includes checking home-care medical devices, programmable ther-

mostats or other heating control systems, home security systems, fire alarms and farm management systems.

Gary Dolha, district agent for ATCO Gas in Didsbury, Carstairs and Cremona, said that the company is as ready as it can be, and will be on full staff stand-by in case of a problem. He said ATCO's main concern is also that of people overreacting.

"If somebody has a difficulty, we're ready to respond," Dolha said. "If one person's furnace goes out, it might just be theirs - it doesn't mean the whole world has gone out."

Locally, representatives from banks, the Hospital, and even Home Hardware and AG Foods are doubtful of any problems, but are prepared just in case.

The team leader of support services for Didsbury Hospital, Jim Moore, said the Hospital has been working on Y2K readiness for the past year, and has finished on schedule.

As the Hospital relies heavily on the constant supply of utilities for the care and safety of patients and staff, the contingency plan includes provisions for alternative sources of power and heat. Moore said the Hospital has a backup generator, which has been tested. It runs on diesel, and a contract for the supply of the fuel is in place. The Hospital has also been given priority in the Town's contingency plan for use of water in the reservoir in case of a water shortage.

Moore said that all other bases have been covered as well. The Hospital has lots of supplies on hand, has had all equipment tested and passed or replaced, backs up all records each night, and has

backup staff on duty.

Moore said his major concern is the possibility of an influx of patients, and encourages people to only go to the hospital as they would regularly for emergencies.

"We hope people don't come flocking to the Hospital because we're the only place with lights on," he said.

Bank representatives echo the same confidence that their systems are prepared for Y2K.

Donna Fairbrother, Royal Bank's senior advisor for public affairs for the prairie region, said that although there were a lot of systems and details to consider, they are confident everything will be fine.

"Our advice is there's no reason to be concerned about access to cash," she said, adding that ATMs are expected to function, unless there is a power outage.

Fairbrother said there's no reason for people to withdraw large amounts of cash, as "your money is safer in the bank than under your mattress."

She explained that all records are safe and will stay intact, and that there is no need to get a statement on Dec. 31.

Royal Bank expects to open its doors Jan. 4, but in the event of a prolonged power outage, would stay closed until the problem was rectified.

"We don't want to compromise the safety of our customers," she said.

Ed Davidson, branch administrator for the Didsbury Alberta Treasury Branch, also indicated that all records would be fine. As an added precaution though, ATB will be preparing an extra statement for each customer on Dec. 28. These statements will not be mailed out

but will be available at each branch for customer pick-up.

Davidson said that although the ATB has indicated it is unnecessary for customers to withdraw large amounts of money, one customer has done so already. Davidson said that anyone else wishing to withdraw a large sum of cash should do so by Dec. 20 or 21 to have it by year end, because the branch may not have the whole amount on hand.

ATB branches are also set to reopen on Jan. 4, and the Didsbury branch should be open even without power or heat. However, if both these utilities are not operable by Jan. 4, the branch will likely be shut.

Norris Thompson, general manager of Mountain View Credit Union said their branches are ready, and will be open Jan. 4 with or without power.

"The only concern we have is things that are out of our control such as power and telecommunications," he said.

For local Didsbury services, all three gas stations - Fas Gas, Esso and Hi-Ho - are planning to be open as usual Jan. 1, but have indicated there will be no access to fuel if power is out.

AG Foods plans to be open Jan. 2, and has its own backup generator. Dennis Van Dyck said Home Hardware will also be "business as usual" as they also have access to a generator.

Claude Baril from Didsbury Drugs said they will get out their calculators if need be and be hard at work Jan. 3, power or not, while Margo Ward said Ward's Value Drug Mart will likely remain closed past their planned opening date of Jan. 3 if the power or heat are not working.



DIDSBURY DRUGS

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Saturday	Christmas Day
Sunday	Boxing Day
Monday	8:30~6:00



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TEA AND TOUR

The annual Heritage Tour and Tea was successful once again this year. A number of locals turned out to sneak a peek into some of the older homes around town.

Left: A tea was held at the Museum following the tour. Patrons had a chance to warm up with some tea or coffee and meet local author, Margaret Fradley.

Below: Just one of the many heritage homes on the tour this past year.



She's 90 years young

There was a capacity crowd at the open house in the Didsbury Elks Hall on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Hazel Youngs, long time resident of the district.

Hazel was born in a log cabin on a homestead west of Carstairs, the eighth of ten children. Her parents, Clark and Minerva Ray, came to Canada in 1902, with four children under the age of five. They built a sod house where two more children were born. A log cabin took its place before Glenn, then Hazel came along. Two more followed.

Hazel's life has spanned the

days of the horse and buggy, telephone, radio, car, television and the scientific wonders of today. Mind boggling!

After teaching in rural schools for ten years she married Ross Youngs and took up permanent residence in the Melvin district. She was widowed in 1985.

In 1955 after four children - Neil, Clifford, Elmer and Nola - and seven hailed out crops, she went back to the classroom in Didsbury for 15 years, plus several years of substitute teaching. She is still active in the community.



Cliff Youngs capably handled the emcee duties for the occasion and a short program followed. The 5-0 Singers sang several selections and were great, as usual. Hazel's niece, with her guitar and piano accompaniment entertained, and the grand children read "She isn't old, she's just mature," Pam Whitlow and Sharon Israelson (former pupils) gave a hilarious dialogue entitled, "Hazel at the Helm," a take-off of "Casey at the Bat," revealing classroom capers.

Congratulatory messages from government officials were presented by Neil Youngs.

A lovely lunch followed, catered by Teresa McNeil and her helpers. Congratulations and visiting ended a very enjoyable afternoon.

Happy Birthday Hazel, and may you have many more.

Holiday safety tips

Each year we look forward to the holiday season because it is a time to enjoy with family and friends. We celebrate by decorating our homes with festive touches and savouring delicious traditional treats. As we rush around hanging decorations and preparing our homes for visitors, it's easy to overlook the safety of our surroundings.

With the holiday season upon us, now is a good time to remember to practice safety both inside and outside our homes. CSA International urges you to think twice before climbing ladders to hang decorations plugging in lights or turning on the gas fire-place this winter season. A faulty ladder or frayed extension cord could result in an accident that could be avoided if you take precautions.

A wide range of holiday gifts and decorations, such as light strings, are tested and certified by CSA International. Many popular gift items such as hockey

helmets, small appliances, home workshop tools, and audio-visual equipment bear the familiar CSA mark. This tells consumers a product has been tested to meet the requirements of applicable standards.

Following these simple tips can help you and your family enjoy a safer holiday season:

- Examine holiday light strings each year. Discard any with frayed cords, cracked lamp holders or loose connections.

- Unplug light strings before replacing bulbs. Check to ensure replacement bulbs match the voltage and wattage of the original bulb.

- Ensure that bulb reflectors are the right size for the light string.

- Look for the CSA mark on light strings, extension cords and electrical decorations.

- Always turn off Christmas lights when you leave the house unattended and when going to bed.

Before working with outdoor wiring, turn off the electricity to the supply outlet and unplug the connection.

- Ensure that light strings, cords, spotlights and floodlights are CSA-certified and marked for outdoor use or wet locations.

- When hanging lights outdoors, keep electrical connectors above ground, out of puddles and snow, and away from metal eaves troughs.

- Use insulated fasteners rather than metal nails or tacks to hold light strings in place.

- To prevent moisture from entering light sockets, turn the bulbs to face the ground if possible.

- Connect all outdoor lighting into receptacles protected by weatherproof ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI). A GFCI provides protection from electric shock as it senses leakage current to ground and cut the electrical power to prevent damage or injury.

South West Didsbury

By Mrs. Bessie Eckstrand

I would like to extend very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the owner of the Review and Contemporary Graphics Gene Hartmann and wife Ila and family, and also to the staff and readers of the paper as it has been a busy and successful year.

Murray and Karen Scott bought and moved to the former property of Dorothy Kershaw. They have two children Britany, age three and Natasha, seven months old. Murray works at Hildebrand Motors in Olds, and he used to work at H&R Pontiac for Fred Hanson.

Dorothy Kershaw moved into Didsbury. Hope you are enjoying town life Dorothy, it's quite a change from farm life in the west country.

The family of Roy and Donna Luft recently surprised their parents by having a celebration on their 45th wedding anniversary in November 1999.

Family came from Saskatoon, Red Deer and Didsbury. All met at Canmore and had a horse-drawn wagon ride and then spent the night in the hotel in Canmore, and they enjoyed the hotel's waterslide.

Donna's sisters and girls were present for the occasion and all were glad to be together for the first time since 1973. The area wishes Roy and Donna much happiness and many more anniversaries.

Henry and Erna Gaerzen celebrated St. Nicholas Day on Dec. 6 by having a family supper and candy bags for the youngsters. Three of our five children and families were present and also Elva and Karl Regeht from Winnipeg.

Next coffee party will be held at Westcott Hall Jan. 12, 2000. All ladies of the area are invited to attend.

Bancroft Women's Institute news

The Christmas meeting of the Bancroft Women's Institute was held at the home of Jean McCulloch, Dec. 6. A Christmas carol opened the meeting, followed by the creed and flag salute. Roll call was answered with items from the food bank.

A new slate of officers was elected for the year 2000. President - Jean McCulloch, Vice-president - Elsie Brander, Secretary - June Lore, Treasurer - Pat Vanteering.

Dates for the annual crib and whist tournament were set. They will be held at Midway School beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evenings Jan. 14 and 28, and Feb. 11 and 25, 2000.

Birthday money collected throughout the year will be sent to the AWI Office fund. Betty and Gordon Marsh will be asked to audit the treasurer's books.

Before enjoying a lunch of Christmas goodies, members exchanged gifts and packed boxes of Christmas cookies for the elderly and shut-ins. Susan Page was the winner of the hostess tea prize.

The January meeting will be held in Didsbury at the home of Elsie Brander on Monday, Jan. 10 at 1:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome to attend.

DINNER TIME

Many locals enjoyed a wonderful Christmas meal last Thursday evening in Unit 4 at the Hospital. Lots of people turned out for some great food, entertainment and a chance to spend some time with their loved ones.

Photo by Nicole Smith



Pupil-teacher ratios in Canada

In all the statistics released on pupil-teacher ratios by Statistics Canada, Alberta has consistently had the highest ratio of any Canadian province. It is important to remember that in the context of the data released by the Organisation Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Those data show that, for early childhood education, the average pupil-teacher ratio among the 21 countries listed is 17.6. Canada ranks 15th with a ratio of 21.5, just ahead of the United States at 21.9. At the primary level, the OECD average among the 21 countries listed is 18.3. Canada ranks eighth at 17.0, just behind the United States at 16.9.

At the secondary level, the OECD average among the 18 countries listed is 14.6. Canada ranks 17th at 19.7, significantly behind the United States at 16.1.

"We could do worse," writes John Ralston Saul, "than to reduce classes from the typical twenty to thirty students down to ten."

HOLMES PHYSICAL THERAPY CLINIC & COMMUNITY SERVICES

*Time for us to say Thank you
for your loyalty and patronage
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*You are invited to come for
Coffee & Christmas Refreshments*

**DECEMBER 18, 1999
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

*We wish you a blessed Christmas,
prosperity and good health
for the year to come.*

Linda Mitschke



For the past number of years since the formation of RHA#5, communication between the board and community admittedly leaves much to be desired. In spite of repeated efforts by myself, and my predecessor & the community to encourage better communication, not a lot has changed.

The latest attempt, not showing much sign of improvement, was, however, an attempt to communicate, and we did ask for more communication. Some people may not like the method or the message used by the RHA & I would concur. However, I could also say that some methods used to communicate to me by some members of the community were no better.

It is not my intention to respond in kind to either.

It is my intention to encourage the board and everyone else to have open and clear communication. I will start by strongly suggesting to the board to provide clear & complete information on their intentions in writing and provide an opportunity for everyone in the communities that the Didsbury Hospital serves, to respond to the board, free of bias or intimidation.

I do not often respond to editorials or letters-to-the-editor and regard them as one person's opinion whether they are accurate or not.

However, I will respond to two articles written last week, the first of which was written by Leanne Rekiel, Editor for the Carstairs Courier, who was referring to the RHA meeting held last spring at the 5-0 Club where several attendees walked out on the RHA.

Perhaps, Leanne, you were just trying to be too kind to me and I sincerely appreciate it. But, as I recall it, the walk-out was in response to my comments, not the RHA's. True, there was dissatisfaction expressed at the RHA's inaccurate advertising, but the question that was asked, "Why is Didsbury in Region 5 and who decided that?", was not being answered by the RHA facilitator; perhaps because he did not have the answer. I volunteered to answer because I had just recently reviewed volumes of material on the subject as well as The RHA Boundary Review Report. I was also a member on a hospital board at the time regionalization took place and was well aware that local hospital boards decided which region they wished to be in. They made those requests to the then Minister of Health, the Honourable Shirley McClellan who honored those requests.

However, it was when I reported the results of submissions to the Boundary Review Commission and from the respondents in RHA#4 (Calgary), RHA#5, and RHA#6 (David Thompson), as well as a list of those communities that did not respond, that a voice from the back of the room blurted out, "He's a liar" and then several people walked out.

I know it is easy and even popular to criticize the RHA's efforts at communication. However, from my own observations and experience I have to say that on issues regarding health services, communication has not been easy.

The other article I will respond to is Mr. Wagstaff's letter. He starts his letter by criticizing the government, then the RHAs and then urges everyone to phone or write the MLA and everyone in authority, but fails to explain why he himself has not yet bothered to contact me himself. ("Doug, I'm still waiting").

I have said it before, and I will say it again. The absolute best way to have a positive effect on the hospital's future and retain services is to use them. There are far too many that still talk the talk, but when it comes time to walk the walk, they drive up Highway 2! Amazingly enough, they can justify this in their own minds.

Regardless of how people talk to me I try very hard to respond back in a way I would like to be treated. I urge all of us to do the same. The process of meaningful communication takes some time. Let's not miss this opportunity to explore "all" possible options, and there are several that have not yet been explored.

Everyone should have the opportunity to respond to a complete documented proposal and provide their own personal response to the board. The board should make a commitment to respect those results. Failing that, we will look at other alternatives which I will be discussing with the board and councils later this month.

At this time I still only have a summary of the proposal, not a complete detailed version. Any specific response at this time would not be appropriate until such time as I do, and can discuss it with the board. That will happen within the next few weeks.

Thank you for your time. Merry Christmas! **Richard Marz, M.L.A.**
Olds, Didsbury & Three Hills Constituency

Heads and Heels news

By Valerie Huelsman

The Heads and Heels 4-H Stock Dog Club started another 4-H year near the end of October. The club operates out of Olds and has been around for three years. This year, 13 members have enrolled. The Olds Agricultural Society has been generous enough to allow us to run our meetings and practices in the Olds Pavilion every Wednesday evening.

The first scheduled meeting was on Nov. 3. At the meeting, many items were discussed including election of officers. This year's executive consists of: president - Nolan Fisher, vice-president - Jessica Pearson, secretary - Vanessa Osmond, treasurer and district representative - Amy Richardson, and club reporter - Val Huelsman. Joanne Pearson is our club leader. Our trainer, Jill Brodie, comes from Calgary every week to help us out with our dogs.

On Sunday, Nov. 21, dog trials were held at the Olds Pavilion. The club members pushed sheep, timed and ran a concession as a fundraiser. The next dog trial will be on Dec. 12. There will also be a couple more trials in the new year, and all trials are open to the general public.

The second meeting of the year was on Dec. 1 at the Pavilion, where items of business that were important to the club were discussed.

We will keep you posted on any other important events that are happening in the club. May everybody have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Days 'Til Christmas!

PERSONAL TAXES DOWN, DEBT REDUCED, AND PRIORITY SPENDING

Report to Albertans

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA - FALL 1999

Big savings for Albertans

Alberta's tax system is changing. By January 2001, Albertans will pay a total of \$600 million less in income tax a year.

- Starting January 2000, Albertans who have been paying the 8% deficit elimination surtax (those who make more than \$47,000) will no longer have to.

- In January 2001, Alberta will unhook from the federal income tax system and move to its own single rate tax on income. The rate will be 11% (on taxable income only) so tax brackets and the costs that come with them will be a thing of the past - at least on provincial income taxes. The federal government will still use tax brackets to calculate your federal income taxes. The move also means that your provincial taxes won't automatically go up when the federal taxes increase.

- The Alberta Government will also raise personal exemptions to \$11,600. With that move, an additional 80,000 low-income Albertans will no longer pay personal taxes. All in all, Alberta's new tax package will save low-income Albertans up to 132%, middle-income earners 18%, and high-income Albertans 9%.

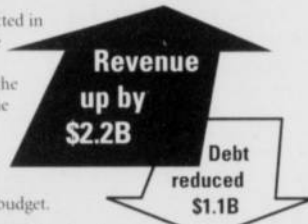
Second Quarter results show Alberta's fiscal plan paying off

With provincial revenues beyond what was projected in Budget 99, the Alberta Government has been able to fast-track its fiscal plan, addressing spending priorities to the tune of \$1.4 billion, accelerating the tax plan by a full year, and more than doubling the debt payment to \$1.1 billion.

The additional revenue, plus the initial economic cushion, allowed the province to address fiscal priorities beyond those priorities outlined in the budget.

With priority program needs addressed and tax reductions in place, the province is left with \$1.445 billion as an economic cushion. Of this \$1.1 billion will go to the province's debt and about \$200 million will be used to increase the province's financial assets. The remaining \$80 million could be used to address issues that arise in the third and fourth quarter.

Also, the government will put \$27 million towards accelerating the elimination of the 8% deficit elimination surtax to January 1, 2000, and will move the entire new tax plan ahead a year to January 1, 2001.



Second Quarter results show Alberta staying ahead

The second quarter fiscal update released by the Alberta Government on November 29th, shows excellent progress on debt payment. In June 1999, the province celebrated the elimination of its \$8.3 billion net debt - about ten years ahead of schedule. By law the remaining debt of \$14 billion must be paid off in 25 years or less.

By March 31, 2000, the province will pay off another \$1.1 billion of the debt. That's more than double the amount estimated in Budget 99, which was released in March 1999. This kind of progress lends greater strength to the already strong and healthy Alberta economy that Albertans have built.

It means interest costs go down and the money saved in interest can be used more productively. It means that Alberta's nation-leading credit rating gets even better, so the cost of borrowing money in the future is lower. In combination with the new tax system, it gives people and their businesses good reasons to move here from across Canada and around the world. And they do. Between July 1998 and July 1999 almost 60,000 people moved to Alberta.

All these factors have a positive effect on the economy, which forecasters expect will grow 2.3% this year and 3.7% in 2000.

Keeping ahead of growth

It's great for the economy when 60,000 people move to your province. But it's tough on hospitals, schools and roads. So, the Government of Alberta has committed extra cash to take the pressure off.

- \$425 million - transportation infrastructure within municipalities
- \$232 million - emergency support to farmers
- \$216 million - health authorities
- \$151 million - school boards
- \$135 million - fighting forest fires
- \$70 million - health facilities and long-term care facilities
- \$54 million - settlement of sterilization claims
- \$38 million - infrastructure support to post-secondary institutions
- \$37 million - child and family services authorities and Child Welfare and Handicapped Children's Services

\$1.4B more spent on Alberta's priorities

- \$27 million - other health initiatives
- \$21 million - other infrastructure projects including: upgrading of seniors' lodges; irrigation; advanced medical equipment; and Healthy Aging Partnership Initiative
- \$16 million - elimination of funding caps for students with severe emotional behavioral disabilities and those studying English as a second language
- \$16 million - Municipal Water and Wastewater Grants program
- \$10 million - construction and upgrade of water infrastructure and small water projects
- \$4 million - monthly rather than quarterly payments to school boards from the School Foundation Fund

On the up and up

Oil prices have risen dramatically. Oil has jumped from \$10 US a barrel last Christmas to over \$25 US a barrel in October and November this year. In addition, reduced US supplies and a sweltering summer in eastern North America helped push up natural gas prices this summer.

This means that the province will earn almost \$4 billion from the energy sector this year. That's almost \$1.5 billion more than was expected at budget time.

Climbing out of debt

By March 31, 2000 \$9.4 billion of the debt will be paid back, leaving \$13 billion to tackle in coming years.



\$14 billion accumulated debt

\$8.3 billion net debt

Did you know?

- So far this year, almost 45,000 jobs have been created in Alberta.
- Albertans' wages and salaries were up 3.1% from January 1999 to July 1999.

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Alberta
GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA



The upside of downtime

By Marilyn Logan

I sometimes find it interesting to ponder how I would react in a stressful or dangerous situation. Pondering is one thing. Reality can often be quite different.

One day I decided to go to the city to pick up a few items. Upon arrival I realized that I was very low on gas. I pulled into the nearest gas station located beside a small mall. Several cars were lined up ahead of me at the pumps. This meant that I had plenty of time to sit and people watch - one of my favourite activities. Two unkempt men stood out from other customers. They were walking slowly along the mall, eyeing each store carefully, pointing occasionally, and whispering to each other. Their gait seemed erratic; they weaved back and forth as they walked down the sidewalk and onto the roadway. It was obvious they were under the influence of some kind of chemical.

As I watched this scene unfold I couldn't help but wonder which store they were casing. My imagination took hold and I mentally created several different scenarios about what they were planning to do. In retrospect I think my fantasies far outweighed the potential of what these two men were capable of accomplishing.

Suddenly a car horn sounded behind me. I had been so preoccupied with my thoughts that I hadn't noticed that my turn at the pump had arrived. I quickly pulled up to the pump and gingerly inserted the spout into the gas tank. At the same time I noticed that my car windows were filthy. They literally called out for immediate attention. After setting the pump on automatic, I grabbed a squeegee from a bucket of water and started to remedy the situation.

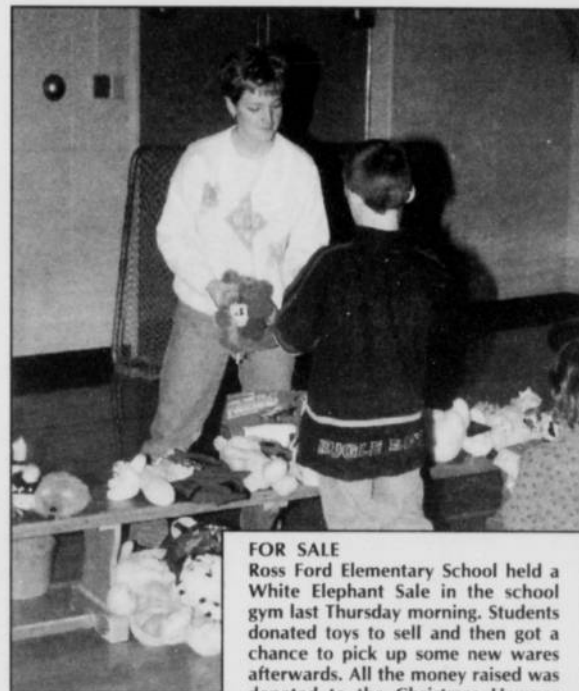
Out of nowhere I could sense someone approaching. Stopping what I was doing for a moment, I looked up and discovered that one of the questionable characters was headed in my direction. As he approached, hands tucked tightly in his pockets, I got a clearer idea of his size. He was approximately six foot six and probably weighed a minimum of three hundred pounds. His hair hung in greasy strands down his back and his face had obviously not been introduced to a razor for several days. Cautiously, I resumed washing my windows, relying on peripheral vision to keep me informed of his position.

This tactic wasn't completely reliable. Within seconds this unsavoury character was standing directly behind me, invading my personal space. The fight or flight instinct took over as adrenaline coursed through my body. Well, actually the flight part didn't really materialize to any great extent. Instead I found myself ready to take him on. I whirled 180 degrees so quickly that I completely caught him off guard. Holding it tightly in both hands, I raised the nearest weapon. With knees bent slightly to gain advantage, lips curled in a snarl and eyes blazing, I literally dared him to step closer.

Despite the difference in our sizes, he was completely intimidated by this move. I can say this with authority because both of his hands flew from his pockets as he raised his arms into the air. "It's okay. It's okay, lady," he stammered as he carefully backed away. "I didn't do nothing. Everything's cool, okay?" He turned quickly and bolted behind some nearby buildings. I had yet to lower my weapon.

What was this weapon? My dripping squeegee, of course. I had managed to foil whatever had been on this character's mind with a down-to-earth harmless window cleaner. I must say this unexpected albeit short-lived sense of power felt very good.

Moral: Even the simplest device can become multifunctional when the need arises.



FOR SALE
Ross Ford Elementary School held a White Elephant Sale in the school gym last Thursday morning. Students donated toys to sell and then got a chance to pick up some new wares afterwards. All the money raised was donated to the Christmas Hamper Program in Didsbury.

Teachers call for "college in high school" proposal

Last week, the president of the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) called on Minister of Learning, Dr. Lyle Oberg, to consult teachers and other education partners before implementing a proposal that would see high school students taking university courses as part of their high school curriculum. "High schools already have a clear and important mandate in education and at present they lack the resources to accomplish what they need to do with students," said ATA President Larry Booi.

"Rather than downloading functions that legitimately belong to universities," said Booi, "the government should ensure that high schools have sufficient resources to accomplish their important work with students."

Booi cautioned that the department's commitment to so-called, "seamless learning" had the potential to create difficulties rather than solutions for schools.

"Seams have a legitimate purpose, which is to tie distinct elements together. We need look no further than our clothing for an illustration of this fact."

"There are important differences between high school and post-secondary institutions

that should not be blurred," said Booi. "For example, we expect that K-12 education should be delivered without tuition fees, while such fees for post-secondary courses are the norm in Alberta."

The proposal also fails to recognize the importance of the distinct mission of secondary schools. "Taken to its logical conclusion, this approach would say to elementary schools, 'if you were any good, you would be a junior high.' Instead, we need to support and value the work done at different levels of schooling."

Booi also questioned the minister's rationale for the proposal. "The minister said that the average high-school student graduates with 135 credits, '35 more than necessary.' But surely we need to recognize that in today's changing society, going beyond the minimum credits gives students a more flexible, broadly-based education, one that will serve them well in later years."

In addition, Booi questioned the minister's goal of "creating an education system that 'can turn on a dime' in response to industry demands."


Booi stated, "While we recognize and support the need to provide a base for employability skills, education is about

much more than preparing workers for industry. Our public and separate schools play a crucial role in developing the potential and talents of each child, and in preparing citizens of a democratic society." Booi suggested that encouraging students to cut back on high school courses is both unnecessary and counterproductive.

"Surely there is more to a high school education than simply preparing students for university. Are we so anxious to propel young people into post-secondary institutions that we simply cannot let them be high school students? We need to give them time to explore, to develop, and to mature."

Booi said that teachers are willing to work with the minister and other education partners to systematically examine the need for smooth transitions and the effective delivery of education in changing times.

"We share similar goals in that we all want an education system that brings out the best in individuals and, at the same time meets the needs of society. But we need to have much more discussion about what such a system should look like."



We invite you to celebrate Christ's birth!

**MORNING STAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

(Worshipping at the Carstairs Community Hall
1100 Lachner Way, Carstairs)
Pastor Jonathan Schultz 242-5000

**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

7:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship
6:00 p.m.
Bible Study
(pre-school through adult)
7:00 p.m.




**OPEN HOUSE &
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Friday, December 17, 1999
From: 1:00 - 4:00p.m.

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**VANDA
AGENCIES LTD.**

Stop by for a Christmas treat,
refreshments and to say "Goodbye" to our
special employee, Brenda Dokter.



Faces

a brief glimpse of people and events in our community

Compiled by Colleen Horrigan

Theatre Didsbury at it again

Theatre Didsbury is in high demand as audiences across central Alberta have been enjoying their shows for years. They are currently near the end of their run of *Beside Manners*, which has been so well-received, director Tony Sylvestre says the troupe has already made a few bookings for the next show.

The next play to be performed by Theatre Didsbury is the sure to be hilarious *The Senator Wore Pantyhose*. Written by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore, the comedy will be directed by Lori Kemmere and Tony Sylvestre. Both Kemmere and Sylvestre are veterans of Theatre Didsbury and will also act in the play, along with four other long-time Didsbury actors and four newcomers to the troupe.

The plot features a Senator whose campaign is at the bottom of the polls, and his desperate campaign manager who is willing to do almost anything to bolster the Senator's popularity.

Kemmere said the play was chosen because of its hilarious characters and plot twists, and will appeal to a wide audience.

The first show will be Feb. 12 at Westcott Hall, and the play will run most weekends at various locations until April. Watch for upcoming announcements of local shows.



Lori Kemmere

Christmas turkey for all

In the true community spirit that Didsbury shows this time of year, a turkey dinner has been planned for Dec. 25 for all Didsburians who find themselves alone this Christmas.

Organizer Linda Sirr says she could really use some company for Christmas dinner and hopes that any singles, couples or small families who would like to meet some new friends or visit with some old ones would join her at Elks Hall Dec. 25 at 1 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to ensure everything runs smoothly and anyone wishing to help out with the dinner can call Linda at 335-4832 or 335-2378.

There has been a good turnout at past Christmas dinners - about 35 people showed up last year to enjoy the buffet-style meal and the company of friends and neighbours - and according to Sirr, there is room for plenty more.

"I'd like to see 60 there," she said, adding that if some folks would like to attend but are lacking transportation, to phone her and arrangements will be made.

Admission to the dinner is free, and Sirr is asking that everyone who attends bring a white elephant gift for exchange.



Linda Sirr

Christmas decoration contest

With the abundance of beautifully decorated homes in Didsbury this Christmas season, competition will be tough for the annual Christmas decoration judging.

The judging will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 15, and anyone wishing to get in on the contest must register with the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce at 335-3265 before then.

Registrants must leave their name, street address, phone number and directions to their home if their residence is in a rural location. Members of the judging committee will then come to view and judge the decorations.

Judi Newsome of the Chamber said the judging is based on overall seasonal decorations, not just Christmas lights, and that the three most outstanding entries will be awarded recognition and will have their names and addresses published to the community so others can go view the decorations.

Anyone wishing to have their home entered into the contest should phone Judi or leave a message at 335-3265.



Judi Newsome

New swim program at DAC to start in the new year

If the cold weather is keeping you indoors in the new year, the Didsbury Aquatic Centre will be introducing a new program to get people off the couch. Endorsed by Swim Alberta, the sessions are called "I Can Swim" and "I Can Swim Fast".

A continuous program which includes four levels of instruction, the I Can Swim series is suitable for all ages, similar to the Red Cross program. What differs from the Red Cross lessons, however, is that the I Can Swim program is focused solely on swimming skills and improvement, and doesn't include all the other material that Red Cross lessons do, such as water safety and first aid.

The sessions run Jan. 3 to Feb. 23 and Feb. 28 to April 19. Lessons will be Mondays and Wednesdays, with times ranging slightly between 4-5:30 p.m. Session one is a basic orientation to the water and the development of some basic skills. It includes eight hours of instruction and costs \$48. Session two has 12 hours of instruction focusing on basic strokes, and costs \$58. The third session focuses on skill improvement, and has 16 hours of instruction for \$63. Session four, the part called I Can Swim Fast, includes 16 hours of instruction on swimming faster and perfecting the strokes.

The program was introduced to replace a previously offered similar swim program. Todd Reade, Aquatic Coordinator at DAC, said that registration for this program also includes a year-long membership to Swim Alberta, a membership card and periodic newsletter.

"I'd like to see this program fill and run at least as well as our Red Cross programs," Reade said, adding that the series applies to non-swimmers, developing swimmers, and swim club members who want to work on stroke improvement.



Todd Reade



Judi Paul Whittaker

Annual community Christmas banquet

Members of the Mountain View Missionary Church will once again be hosting an open Christmas banquet at the Mountain View Community Hall. This year, the banquet will feature entertainment by local singers/comedians Judi Paul Whittaker and Terry Whittaker, known as The Wench and the Bloke.

Well-known local performers, Judi and Terry have been doing this type of informal, off-the-cuff entertaining for years, and often put on shows or perform songs they have written specifically for each special occasion.

To be held on Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m., the banquet is open to the public and will feature some sing-alongs and family-oriented entertainment. A traditional turkey dinner will be catered, then the Whittakers will take over as hosts for the evening. Their nostalgic comedy show is likely to include a monologue, some Christmas carols and a few surprises.

Tickets are available by calling Vern at 335-4436 or Doug at 335-4435. Cost is \$12 for ages 12 and up, \$6 for ages 5-11 and free for children under five. There are about 110 tickets in all, and according to organizer Angela Pratt, they usually sell out fast.



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AS SEEN ON



Focus on the Family



James C. Dobson, PH. D., is founder and president of Focus on the Family, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home. Dr. Dobson is married, the father of two grown children, and resides in Colorado. For 14 years he was an associate clinical professor of pediatrics and the university of Southern California School of Medicine, and served for 17 years on the attending staff of the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. He has also been heavily involved in governmental activities relating to the preservation of the family.

QUESTION: In your book "Love Must Be Tough," you suggest some ways unmarried people can build healthy relationships and not smother each other. Would you share those again and apply the "tough love" principle to those of us who are not married?

DR. DOBSON: The principles of loving toughness are the same for those who are single as for those who have been married for decades. There are circumstances, however, that are specific to the courtship period.

Let me cite 17 suggestions that will help you avoid the common pitfalls among those who are trying to win the heart of another.

1. Don't let a relationship move too fast in its infancy. The phrase "too hot not to cool down" has validity. Romantic affairs that begin in a frenzy frequently burn themselves out. Take it one step at a time.

2. Don't discuss your personal inadequacies and flaws in great detail when the relationship is new. No matter how warm and accepting your friend may be, any great revelation of low self-esteem or embarrassing weaknesses can be fatal when interpersonal "valleys" occur. And they will occur.

3. Remember that respect precedes love. Build it stone upon stone.

4. Don't call too often on the phone or give the other person an opportunity to get tired of you.

5. Don't be too quick to reveal your desire to get married -- or that you think you've just found Mr. Wonderful or Miss Marvelous. If your partner has not arrived at the same conclusion, you'll throw him or her into panic.

6. Most important: Relationships are constantly being "tested" by cautious lovers who like to nibble at the bait before swallowing the hook. This testing procedure takes many forms, but it usually involves pulling back from the other person to see what will happen. Perhaps a foolish fight is initiated. Maybe two weeks will pass without a phone call. Or sometimes flirtation occurs with a rival.

In each instance, the question being asked is, "How important am I to you, and what would you do if you lost me?" An even more basic issue lies below that one. It is: "How free am I to leave if I want to?" It is incredibly important in these instances to appear poised, secure and equally independent. Do not grasp the other person and beg for mercy. Some people remain single throughout life because they cannot resist the temptation to grovel when the test occurs.

7. Extending the same concept, keep in mind that virtually every dating relationship that continues for a year or more and seems to be moving toward marriage will be given the ultimate test.

A breakup will occur, motivated by only one of the lovers. The rejected individual should know that their future together depends on the skill with which he or she handles that crisis. If the hurting individual can remain calm, the next two steps may be reconciliation and marriage. It often happens that way. If not, then no amount of pleading will change anything.

8. Do not depend entirely upon each other for the satisfaction of every emotional need. Maintain interests and activities outside that romantic relationship, even after marriage.

9. Guard against selfishness in your love affair. Neither the man nor the woman should do all the giving. I once broke up with a girl because she let me take her to nice places, bring her flowers, buy her lunch, etc. I wanted to do these things but expected her to reciprocate in some way. She didn't.

There are eight more "Love Must Be Tough" principles to be discussed, and we'll take a look at them next week.

This column is made possible with the help of:

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Have a fire-free holiday season

With visions of sugar plums dancing in our heads, we all should remember to hang our stockings by the chimney with care this holiday season.

Alberta Municipal Affairs and the Fire Commissioner's Office is unwrapping its 1999 Christmas Fire Safety Campaign to promote fire safety over the busy holiday season.

"Taking care of fire safety in our homes helps ensure we have an enjoyable festive season," said Tom Mackay, provincial Fire Commissioner.

"Putting safety first will help

make the last half of December the safest time of the year rather than the most dangerous."

During this busy time of year, the risk of home fires increases by 32%. Over the past five years (1994-98), close to 500 fires occurred in Alberta homes.

These fires killed seven people, injured 92 and caused \$16 million worth of property damage.

Statistics reflect the increase of fire during the holiday season: fires increased 32%, fire deaths rose 46%, fire

injuries went up 49% and property losses increased 69% compared with the rest of the year.

Some fire safety reminders for a safe holiday:

- Never leave frying food or cooking oil unattended on the stove.

- Follow safety practices for space heaters and fireplaces.

- Candles must be used with great caution. Fires related to candles increase four-fold during Christmas.

- Keep matches or lighters out of sight and out of reach of children.

- If you smoke, be careful.

- Exercise care with electrical appliances, wiring and light bulbs.

- Test your smoke alarms to ensure they are working properly.



Albertans confident provincial government Y2K ready

A recent poll conducted on behalf of the government of Alberta shows Albertans believe the provincial government is well prepared for when the clocks turn to midnight on Dec. 31.

Close to 90% of those surveyed feel the provincial government's computer systems will continue to operate normally, and that the government has taken the necessary steps to prepare for Y2K.

"I am pleased to see Albertans are not too worried about Y2K, and am happy to add that we too are confident the government of Alberta will continue to operate with little or no disruption in the new year," said Innovation and Science Minister Dr. Lorne Taylor. "All predictable measures have been taken and computer systems considered to be vital to the province's operations are considered Y2K ready."

The survey also found that a majority of Albertans - 70% - do not think the Y2K bug will affect them personally and less

that 3% feel computers will stop working.

"This is consistent with information we've gathered from essential service providers across the province indicating the chance of a widespread or extended essential service outages due to Y2K is remote," said Alberta Municipal Affairs Minister Walter Paszkowski. "We are also working closely with federal and municipal emergency organizations to enhance existing emergency plans to address any potential public safety consequences." More than 70% of the people surveyed say they are prepared for an emergency situation such as severe weather, fires or natural disasters.

Disaster Services officials say emergency planning for Y2K is a

good opportunity for Albertans to ensure they are prepared for an emergency at any time of the year. Officials advise all Alberta households should have enough food, water, medications, battery-powered radios, candles and other necessary items on hand for 72 hours.

A brochure, entitled How to Prepare Your Family and Home for an Emergency, is available through municipal offices and MLA constituency offices or by calling 422-9000. The brochure tells people how to develop a family emergency plan, to check their insurance coverage and provides a check list of supply and food items that should be kept in the home. It can also be downloaded via the Internet at www.gov.ab.ca/ma.

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Fortress Baptist Church

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Pastor Jim Warkentin • 335-4878
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.

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Bergthal Mennonite Church

Didsbury, Alberta • Bruce Wiebe, Pastor
5 Kilometers south of the Didsbury overpass
8 Kilometers East on Bergthal Road
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:55 a.m.
Activities, Fellowship and a Care Group Ministry throughout the week. For more information phone 335-4451 or 335-8927.

Redeemer Lutheran

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1500 - 23rd Street
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Church: 335-3161/Res: 335-3656
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Adult Bible Study Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sun. 10:30 a.m.
It & Senior Youth, Women's & Senior's Ministry Group, Small Group Bible Study meetings throughout the week.

West Zion Mennonite Church

South of Didsbury to sign - west 1½ miles
Pastor Jim Miles. Information call 337-2020
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Worship Service - 10:55 a.m.

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David Black, Youth Director
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10:10 - 11:05 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Contact the church regarding Bible Studies, Care Groups, Teen Activities & Children's programs.

St. Anthony's Catholic

2030 24 Ave. Didsbury Phone 556-3084
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Mountain View Evangelical Missionary Church

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Worship Service: 11 a.m.

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DONATION TIME

Left: Didsbury Elks Exalted Ruler Terry Stevenson accepts a cheque of \$150 from Harley Seymour of the Didsbury Show and Shine Committee.

Below: Didsbury Lion Gerald Johnson accepts a cheque, also for \$150, from Glenn Smith of the Didsbury Show and Shine Committee.

The two service groups were given this funding in appreciation for the assistance they gave in parking and food booths at last year's annual Show and Shine. Both the Elks and the Lions have agreed to assist with the event again next year.



Canadian 88 upgrade needed

On Dec. 7, Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) issued Decision Report 99-29 confirming its previous requirement that Canadian 88 Energy Corp. upgrade its Olds Garrington sour gas processing plant to meet sulphur recovery efficiency requirements for existing plants undergoing significant expansion or extension of anticipated plant life span. These requirements are outlined in Information Letter (L) 88-13, Sulphur Recovery Guidelines for Sour Gas Plants in Alberta. The decision results from a request by Canadian 88 to reduce its sulphur recovery and inlet rates as previously approved by the EUB. Local interveners opposed the amendment request, and a public hearing was held.

Background: Canadian 88 had initially submitted an application to the EUB on April 25, 1997, proposing to increase the raw gas inlet rate at the Olds Garrington plant while maintaining the approved sulphur inlet rate and a sulphur recovery efficiency of 96.5% on a quarterly basis. Subsequently, Canadian 88 amended its application to increase the sulphur inlet rate and increase the sulphur recovery efficiency to 98.4% on a quarterly basis.

This initial application was considered at a public hearing in March 1998. The EUB issued Decision 98-13 on June 30, 1998, approving the application, which was conditional on Canadian 88 completing undertakings made in both its application and at the hearing. A new approval for the facility was issued on July 9, 1998.

During the early part of 1999, EUB staff requested a schedule from Canadian 88 for the applied-for sulphur plant upgrade. On March 5, 1999, the EUB received a response from Canadian 88 which proposed that the sulphur plant upgrade be delayed until gas deliverability to the plant improved. The company observed that its previous anticipated levels of gas to the plant had not materialized and as a result, its approved expansion was no longer economic. On March 10, EUB staff advised Canadian 88 that it must either meet its approved sulphur recovery efficiency by Sept. 1 or apply to amend its approval.

An amendment was received by the Board on April 7. Subsequently, the EUB received notice of opposition to this application from the Olds Area Residents Coalition (OARC). OARC is comprised of local landowners and residents who reside or own land in the vicinity of Canadian 88's facility and/or the town of Olds.

Current hearing: The application and intervention were considered at a hearing in Olds on Sept. 29 - Oct. 1. The board determined the issues it should consider to be: the capacity expansion of the plant; the available gas supply and associated plant life; associated economic considerations; and plant operations, including sulphur recovery efficiency, flaring, and public involvement.

Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the board believes that, having regard to the plant modifications implemented by Canadian 88, the vol-

ume of additional reserves added to the plant to date and the remaining practical plant life, upgrading of the plant's sulphur recovery efficiency to meet current requirements is warranted and in the public interest. The board noted that Canadian 88's own evidence confirms that plant life has in fact been extended significantly and furthermore that the company intends to work diligently to extend that life even further. The board will require Canadian 88 to meet its earlier commitments and upgrade its sulphur plant to meet a sulphur recovery efficiency of not less than 98.4% on a quarterly basis and not less than 98.7% on an annual basis by Oct. 31, 2000.

The board will reduce the approved raw gas inlet rate and sulphur inlet rate to 2381 thousand cubic metres per day and 404.9 tonnes per day (t/d) as requested by Canadian 88. The board is not prepared to allow the company to preserve the right until June 30, 2002, to expand the plant to the 1998 approved inlet levels, since the need for such an expansion no longer exists.

In the interim period up to Oct. 31, 2000, the board believes that Canadian 88 must meet its commitments to minimize sulphur emissions and maximize sulphur recovery to the extent possible with its current facilities. Accordingly, during this interim period, Canadian 88 will operate the Olds Garrington gas plant to a maximum daily inlet sulphur rate of 404.9 tonnes and will be expected to sustain a quarterly average sulphur emission

level of not more than 9.6 t/d from the flare and incinerator stacks. The board further expects that Canadian 88 will sustain a 97.1% minimum quarterly average sulphur recovery during this interim period.

The board expects that Canadian 88 will act in a timely and diligent manner to address the requirements of this decision. The board is concerned both with the previous delay in implementing improved sulphur recovery and associated issues related to the operations of the Olds Garrington plant. These issues, in the board's view, have contributed to heightened public concerns.

In the case of the Olds Garrington gas plant, the board stated that timely compliance with regulatory requirements and the conditions of this decision are essential to reassuring the public and initiating a process of establishing trust within the community. The board therefore has imposed a number of other conditions upon Canadian 88. These conditions include:

- Canadian 88 must demonstrate to EUB staff that sulphur recovery facilities at the Olds Garrington gas plant are capable of meeting the sulphur recovery requirements prescribed in this decision and that those facilities have been installed and commissioned not later than Oct. 31, 2000. The board requires Canadian 88 to submit monthly progress reports on the status of the sulphur recovery upgrade installation work commencing Jan. 1, 2000 until such time as

the upgraded facilities are operational and performance tested to verify recovery capabilities.

- Canadian 88 will conduct a performance test on its existing sulphur recovery plant by April 30, 2000 and report those results to EUB staff and will conduct a performance test on the upgraded sulphur plant within three months of commissioning.

- Canadian 88 will develop and implement appropriate sour and acid gas flaring management, measurement, and estimating procedures consistent with EUB Guide 60, Upstream Petroleum Industry Flaring Guide, Alberta Environment requirements, and Section 6 of this decision. Canadian 88 must submit its procedures and supporting calculations for review by board staff not later than March 31, 2000. Board field surveillance and operations staff will monitor plant operations and S-statements to verify compliance with the flaring procedures.

- Canadian 88 must submit to the board by March 31, 2000 a report on the feasibility of installing a separate emergency acid gas flare system designed to better manage acid gas flaring events.

- Canadian 88 will maintain, subject to EUB audit, a daily log of all flaring events. The log must include details of each flaring incident, including source volumes, method of measurement or estimating, duration of event, reasons for problems, and considerations for continuing plant operations, including public notification.

Agriculture hall of fame now accepting nominations for men and women across Alberta

Every other year, Albertans who have made outstanding contributions to rural life and agriculture are named to the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Now nominations are being accepted for consideration for the 2000 honours and Ty Lund, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD), invited Albertans to nominate deserving individuals.

"Agriculture is one of the most important parts of our economy and the people involved, right from the farm to

the grocery store shelves, play a role in our quality of life," said Lund.

"What they do affects all of us and there are certain individuals who have made a significant difference along the way. They are the people we wish to honour through the Hall of Fame."

Induction into the Hall of Fame is AAFRD's highest honour for Albertans involved in agriculture, food and rural development.

It spotlights those who exemplify leadership and accom-

plishment in their careers at the community, provincial, national or international level. Any Albertan who fits this description is eligible for nomination.

Since the Hall of Fame's opening in 1951, 105 men and women have been honoured.

Those chosen for induction will be honoured in October 2000 during Alberta's Agriculture and Food Week.

Their portraits and lists of their contributions will also be displayed in the AAFRD Hall of Fame in Edmonton.

Nomination forms for the

Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame are available at any AAFRD district office or by contacting AAFRD Communications Division at (780) 427-2127. This number is toll-free if you dial 310-0000 first. The deadline for nomination is March 15, 2000.



CONTRIBUTION
Didsbury Lion Gerald Johnson presents a cheque to Joanna James, head of the Home Help Services Association in Didsbury. The \$500 donation will help support the program, which gives a hand to seniors around town so that they may live at home instead of a rest-home facility.



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Horse breeders and owners conference in Red Deer

Each year in Alberta, the horse industry section of Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) organizes the Alberta Horse Breeders and Owners Conference. The 2000 conference is being held on Jan. 7-9, 2000 at the Capri Centre in Red Deer. This premier horse conference is the only one of its kind in Canada and is conducted by the Horse Industry Section of AAFRD, the Alberta Quarter Horse Breeders Group and the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society - Alberta Division with major sponsorship from the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"The 2000 conference features 13 internationally recognized speakers," says Les Burwash, manager of equine programs with Alberta Agriculture. "The excellent program of speakers includes: Dr. Doug Antezak, professor of equine medicine at Cornell University; Patti Colbert, director of development for the Alberta Quarter Horse Association Foundation; Bill Collins, the Master Horseman from Calgary; Christy Janzen, accomplished endurance rider, gold and silver medalist at the Pan Am Challenge; Dr. Stephanie Valberg, equine researcher at the University of Minnesota and recognized authority on tying-up; and, Dr. Lori Warren, who has a doctorate in equine nutrition and exercise physi-

ology at the University of Kentucky."

Topics included in the agenda are:

- Starting the Young Horse Correctly
- Competing on the International Level
- What and When You Feed may be Critical to Performance
- Tying-Up in Horses; Do Vaccines Work?
- Efficacy of New Vaccines
- Antibiotic Resistance and the 'Problem Mare', Are We Part of the Problem?
- The Maternal Grandire Effect
- Transporting Performance Horses
- What to do when there is an Accident Hauling Horses
- Computer and Manual Book-keeping for Horse Farms/Businesses

The conference is arranged so

that attendees can follow four streams of interest - Arabian, Quarter Horse, Thoroughbred and all breeds.

While many follow the program designed for a particular breed preference, conference participants can attend any of the sessions, and will receive the printed materials from all sessions.

The program starts with a wine and cheese reception on Friday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday's sessions begin at 8:40 a.m.

Conference registration is \$75 per person. For more information about the 2000 conference, contact the horse industry branch in Airdrie at (403)948-8532 or in Edmonton at (780) 415-6107. Government numbers are toll-free by dialing 310-0000 first.

MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITY JULY 31, 1999

3km south of Hwy. 2A/582 intersection involving Korena Hobbs, Kenneth Gebers and Darren Page

Information sought regarding the driver of the 1984 white Chevrolet 1/2 ton truck involved in the fatal accident.

If you observed a white Chevrolet 1/2 ton truck driving on Highway 2A between 11:00 and 11:30 a.m. on July 31, 1999, please contact:

Milne, Davis & Young
Barristers & Solicitors
Suite 850, 933 - 17th Ave. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, T2T 5R6
Tele: 1(403)229-3000
Attention: Robert A. Young

Agri-news briefs

Stored grain insects:

Fall and winter are not usually times when farmers think of pests, but they should be checking their bins every couple of weeks. When grain is harvested warm, condensation can form on the top of bins, creating a perfect breeding habitat where pest populations can build up quickly. This results in further heating and spoilage of the grain. Grains infested by insects can become mouldy and musty, and lose germination, milling and baking quality. Some simple precautions include: clean up and dispose spilled grain from around granaries; clean trucks, handling equipment and bins to reduce the chance of infestation; and in the fall, apply a Malathion solution to help ward off pests. Some counties provide fumigation services, so if an infestation problem is detected, contact the local Alberta Agriculture district office or the county office.

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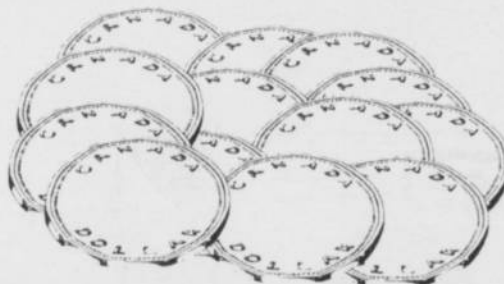
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Sports & Entertainment

Local Teams & Tournaments • Statistics • Movie & Theatre Reviews • Sports Columns

Rottweilers hockey

Over the last few weeks things have been hectic. Rottweilers hosted a tournament which was won by a hard playing Cremona team.

The first game of this tournament saw Didsbury playing Three Hills. As this was also a league game, the boys were pumped. Didsbury won 6-1 and goalie Grant came within 60 seconds of recording a shutout. Good game Grant!

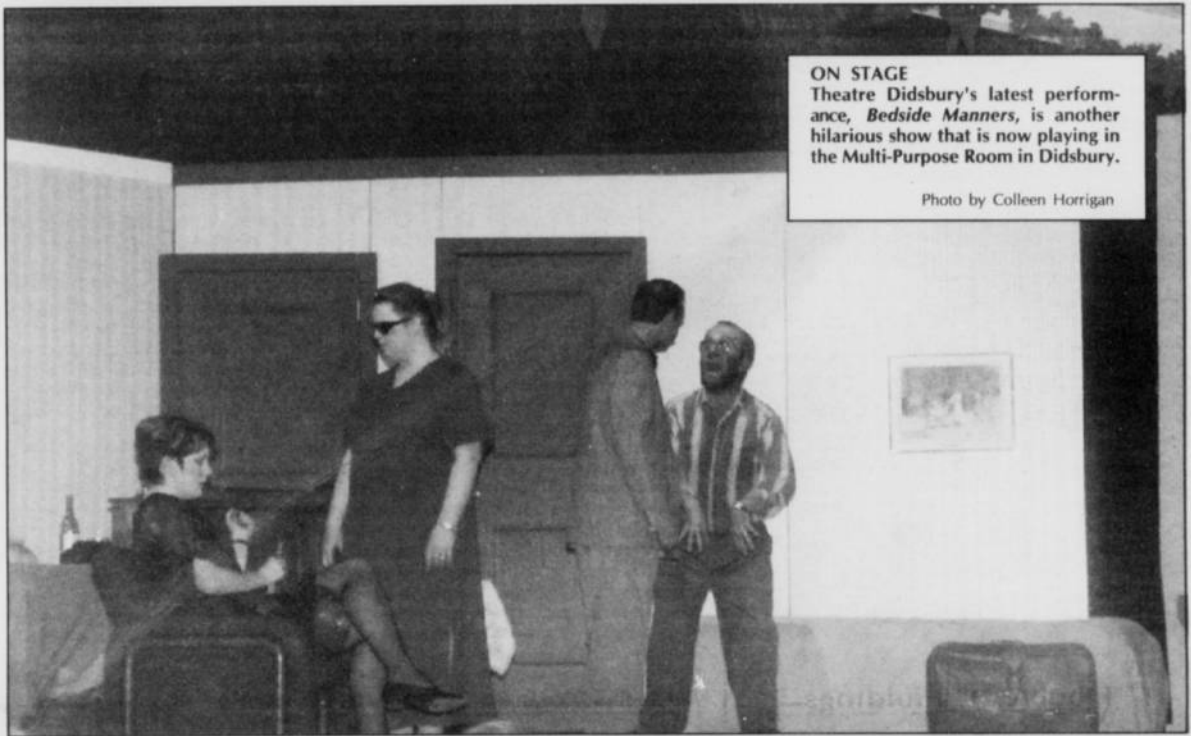
The Rottweilers then lost a heartbreaker 6-5 with the final goal being scored in the last two minutes. Didsbury's final game of the tournament was lost to Olds.

The Rottweilers had another league game against Beiseker Dec. 4. Having tied them in the past, the boys had to crank it up and they did. Final score was 7-2 for Didsbury.

This game saw the team backchecking and playing sound defensive hockey. Travis McTavish, Steve McNeil, Tim Phillips and Colby Willebrands played strong defence and Kelly Kohut and the forwards came back. Matt Collinge had his best game of the year, passing to set up his line all game.

Goal scorers were Matt Collinge, James Whalen, Jeff Choquette, Colby Willebrands and Nathan Crosby. Assists went to Matt Collinge, Jeff Choquette, James Whalen, Nathan Crosby, Steve McNeil, Kelly Kohut and Corky Wilschusen. Great team effort, boys.

Next week they're off to play Canmore in Banff.



ON STAGE

Theatre Didsbury's latest performance, *Bedside Manners*, is another hilarious show that is now playing in the Multi-Purpose Room in Didsbury.

Photo by Colleen Horrigan

Inferno hockey heating up the ice

Dec. 10 had the Inferno bantam/midget girls heading off to Red Deer to play the Sutter Fund Chiefs.

Having already played them once before, with a tie game result, had the girls anticipating a challenging game.

With only eight players, they knew they would be working hard.

Red Deer took the lead in the first period, scoring three goals.

Even with one power play to their advantage, Didsbury just couldn't capitalize on it.

All through the second period they kept them down, working hard and defensively.

Shots on net were there, but just didn't go in their favour. Thank heavens for the Zamboni and for a break the girls probably much needed.

Going into the third period, Red Deer popped two more in

after five minutes of play, bringing the score to 5-0.

Still determined, the Didsbury girls kept pounding away, until Kim Pieper scored their first goal, assisted by Jade Stevens.

That seemed to spark their energy reserve all the more and a minute later, fans were cheering their second goal, scored by Christi Fillmore and assisted by Jade Stevens.

This brought the score to 5-2 for Red Deer, at which it remained in the final.

Great all-around effort by the girls and not a score to be ashamed of when you're playing short!

Good game Inferno.

Next two rounds of exciting midget girls hockey are against Airdrie - Dec. 18 5:30 p.m. at home and Dec. 19 9:30 a.m. at Airdrie.

Colts teach Banff a lesson

Wednesday, Dec. 8, the Colts played home to the Banff Ice-men.

The Colts stepped on the ice and popped three quick goals into the opposition's net and from there they never looked back.

Final score was a whopping 15-4 in favour of the hometown Colts.

Paul Gill did an outstanding job in net.

Saturday, Dec. 11 the Colts once again hit the ice looking for another win.

The pace was fast and furious with both teams hitting hard and skating up and down the whole ice surface.

There was scoring until the last five minutes of the first period when the Colts put three past the West Stars netminder. Chad Pappas scored twice and Stephen McGinn once.

Assists went to Swanson with a pair and singles to Neven, Spreeman, van Dam and Murphy.

Second period both teams were still bumping and grinding along the boards, allowing only one goal each team. Stephen McGinn scored for his second of the game assisted by Neven and Pappas.

Third period action Rod Johnson scored assisted by McMullen and Montgomery to end the game 5-3 for the Colts. Justin Pross played excellent in net, at times keeping the Colts in the game.

Sunday, Dec. 12, the Colts were on the road to Stettler looking to bring home another win.

They didn't accomplish but they did play hard. Stettler had the Colts down by seven goals before the Colts man-

aged to put two away before the end of the third period. The first was scored by van Dam, assisted by Ironside and Haffner.

Spreeman scored with only seconds remaining on the clock assisted by Montgomery and McGinn.

Third period the Colts scored twice more by Miller assisted by Swanson and Neven and a goal by Pappas assisted by Spreeman and Anderson. The Colts outshot the Lightning but had trouble putting them past their awesome netminder.

The Lightning scored twice more by the end, giving them a 9-4 win.

Next games are Friday, Dec. 17 away to Banff, Saturday, Dec. 18 the Colts are home to Okotoks at 8 p.m. and Sunday the Colts travel to Drumheller.

Renegade Report

During the Atom Tournament Dec. 2-5, the Renegades gave the fans some real excitement. They played three action packed games and came together as a team in each game to face some stiff competition. In every game the Renegades showed their stuff with pride.

The first game on Thursday night pitted them against Carstairs. The action was non-stop. The second game on Saturday, they faced off with Sundre. Again it was fast and furious.

The game on Sunday against Olds was the most exciting of all and had fans on the edge of their seats throughout the entire game. Randy Hunter scored at 1:48 of the first period to put the Renegades on the scoreboard assisted by Matthew Code. Down by two going into the second, Olds scored twice. Then Jared Hunter hit the net at 1:18 assisted by Jan Milne & Wade Hannah. Olds opened with a quick one in the third but the Renegades came back with a goal by Randy Hunter at 17:03 and another by Jared Hunter at 16:37 assisted by Wade Hannah and Randy Hunter. They played wonderfully, but just couldn't seem to get any breaks. The number of times the puck sat on the line or bounced off the goal post or just missed someone put fans on the edge of their seats! It was truly hockey at its finest.

The Renegades are a really great team and the parents are all proud of each and every one of the players. It is really nice to see a team come together and everyone give it their best shot!

Olds Grizzlys tearing up the ice around Alberta

By Barry Williams

Winning on the road is important for any contending team.

Olds Grizzlys commenced a gruelling four game road swing into northern Alberta with hard fought 3-2 wins over the Fort Saskatchewan Traders and the St. Albert Saints in Alberta Junior Hockey League action played last week in Fort Saskatchewan and St. Albert.

The victories moved the Grizzlys temporarily into first place in the Cantel AT&T south division standings.

"If any team in this league wants to be a contender for the league championship, they must be able to win on the road," said Grizzlys' head coach and general manager Garry Van Hereweghe following the victory over the Saints.

"I thought we played two fairly good road games against the Traders and the Saints," added Van Hereweghe, indicating the Grizzlys have an excel-

lent record on the road.

"I guess these wins were more satisfying considering several key players were missing from the line up due to injuries," added Van Hereweghe.

"Give the players credit for they were called upon to step up their play and they certainly did so," noted Van Hereweghe.

Actually, Grizzlys' netminder Chad Davidson was a thief in both games as he robbed the Traders and the Saints blind making several miraculous saves, which enabled the Grizzlys to virtually steal four road points.

Davidson, the games first star in the Fort Saskatchewan encounter, made 36 saves as the Traders dominated the Grizzlys from the opening face off.

Meanwhile, Traders' goaltender Bryce McFadden almost fell asleep between the pipes as he handled just 20 shots fired by the Grizzlys during the game.

Although not overly busy against the Saints, Davidson

blocked 24 shots, while the Grizzlys peppered Saints netminder Kirby Miller with 43 blasts.

"In both games, Davidson gave us the opportunity to win," noted Van Hereweghe.

Mid way through the third period, defenceman Dave Erickson dented the twine for the winning goal against the Traders. An overtime goal by Colen Pappas, his second of the game, was the difference against the Saints.

Captain Dana Lattery and Aaron Sept blinked the red light for the other Grizzlys' markers against the Traders, while Sept rounded out the scoring in the Saints encounter.

Although no team looks forward to a four game road swing, Grizzlys' head coach and general manager Garry Van Hereweghe believed the games on the road came at an opportune time.

"Playing hockey during the Christmas season is difficult for any team, especially at home," said Van Hereweghe, indicating the road games took the players minds off the distractions of the season.

"This road trip gave the players an opportunity to bond, which is important in molding a team together," indicated Van Hereweghe.

This past weekend the Grizzlys completed the road trip with two games against the Lloydminster Blazers.

Next home action for the Grizzlys before the Christmas break is Dec. 18 with Grande Prairie Storm.

Canadian Firearms Centre bulletin

A press release from the Canadian Firearms Centre

The Canadian Firearms Centre bulletin explains specific areas of the Firearms Act and how it affects you.

The CFC coordinates the work of federal, provincial and territorial partners implementing the Firearms Act which is being phased in from Dec. 1, 1998 to Jan. 1, 2003.

In a snapshot: Your FAC is replaced if you are issued a new licence. Every firearm owner needs a still valid FAC or a new licence by the end of next year.

Your FAC and new licences: If you currently hold a valid Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) you don't need to get a new firearms licence until your FAC expires.

Your FAC allows you to both possess and acquire firearms.

When your new licence is issued, however, your FAC will be cancelled. You can either hold a valid FAC or a licence, not both.

If you apply for a possession-only licence, therefore, it will mean that you have a five-year licence to possess, but not acquire, firearms.

A possession and acquisition licence, on the other hand, like your FAC, it allows you to both possess and acquire firearms.

You should apply for your licence at least six months before your FAC is due to expire to ensure that you have your licence by the day your FAC expires.

For more information on filling out an error-free licence application, contact the CFC and ask for our fact sheet "The

Ten Most Common Errors".

All firearm owners who do not hold a valid FAC, must have a new firearms licence by Jan. 1, 2001. Apply well in advance.

You have the choice of one of the two following licences:

Possession-only licence - allows you to continue to possess firearms you owned on Dec. 1, 1998, not acquire more; valid for five years; allows you to borrow firearms in the same class (non-restricted, restricted, prohibited) as the firearms you currently own; only available to Canadian residents; cannot apply for this licence after Jan. 1, 2001; you don't need the Canadian Firearms Safety Course.

Possession and acquisition licence - allows you to possess and acquire firearms; valid for five years; is available now and after Jan. 1, 2001; you need to have passed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course test to apply; cost \$60 for non-restricted firearms or \$80 for any combination of non-restricted and restricted or prohibited firearms.

You can't register your firearms without first holding a licence or valid FAC. You must register all your firearms by Jan. 1, 2003.

You can mail your licence application and registration application together. Your licence application will be processed first.

Application forms for licences and to register your firearms are available at your post office, by calling 1-800-731-4000 or by printing them off the CFC website at www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca.

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Calgary Flames on fire lately

By Robert Magee

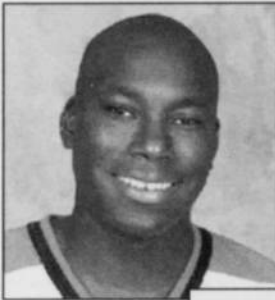
The Calgary Flames have put to rest any rumblings that they have no chance of making the playoffs...for now anyway.

They have pulled off two straight victories against the Chicago Blackhawks and the Vancouver Canucks, giving them a record of 12-15-3-1. Their 28 points leaves them last in the Northwest Division, trailing the Edmonton Oilers by a mere two points and the first-place Colorado Avalanche by six.

Not only have the Flames been winning, but they have also been showing signs of life and excitement. They won a thrilling 3-2 contest last Friday against the Canucks, where goaltender Fred Brathwaite was stellar.

"We knew the third period had to be our best, and it turned

out it had to be Freddie's best too. He wasn't happy with how the second goal went in and he made up for it in the third period," Head Coach Brian Sutter said. Brathwaite made several key saves, and continually thwarted Andrew Cassels and Steve Kariya all night long.



Fred Brathwaite, goalie for the Calgary Flames.

The Canucks almost tied it with a minute left in the game, when Cassels tried a wrap around that appeared to have crossed the line.

But replays showed that only half the puck crossed the goal line. Cassels then skated by the goal judge yelling angrily that it went in. Vancouver Head Coach Marc Crawford took it all in

stride.

"Those things, they have a way of returning our way. You have to give credit to Brathwaite; he preserved the two points for them tonight. You're going to get a game where the adversity comes in that form, where you get great goaltending on the other side."

The Young Guns then traveled to Chicago to face the charged-up Blackhawks. Centre Jason Wiemer gave the Flames the win when he beat Jocelyn Thibault on a 50-foot slapshot with just 66 seconds remaining. The puck actually bounced off of defenceman Anders Eriksson first then beat a startled Thibault.

"It hit Anders' shin pad, then went through a few pairs of legs," said Thibault. "I lost it. I wish I could have made that save, but it didn't happen."

The Flames are now unbeaten in their last three, and have a 4-1-1 record in their last six matches.

They will be in St. Louis Tuesday night and Dallas Wednesday night, before returning home to host the Ottawa Senators on CBC Saturday night.

AJHL update

Goalie Shaun Cadrain stopped 90 of 94 shots in 185 minutes as the Bonnyville Pontiacs had two wins and a shootout win in the Alberta Junior Hockey League during the week ending Nov. 28.

Cadrain, 20, had 32 saves Friday night in a 9-0 shutout over the Crowsnest Pass Timberwolves in Bonnyville.

Goalie Bryce McFadden stopped 87 of 93 shots in 180 minutes as the Fort Saskatchewan Traders won three straight games during the week.

McFadden, 19, took sole possession of the league lead with 27 saves for his third shutout Saturday night in a 3-0 win over the St. Albert Saints in St. Albert.

Veterans Dana Lattery of the Olds Grizzlys and Jared Sylvestre of Bonnyville led league scorers during the week.

Lattery, 20, had six goals and one assist in three games, including three goals in a 5-3 Saturday night win over the Bow Valley Eagles in Olds. He leads the league with 31 goals in 30 games.

Sylvestre, 20, had two goals and five assists in three games. He raised his totals to 21 goals and 51 points in 30 games and is tied with Lattery for fifth place in the league scoring race.

Sylvestre had two goals and two assists in the 9-0 win over Crowsnest Pass.

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Lane Montgomery

Age	20
Weight	180 lbs
Height	6'1"
Position	CENTRE
Years of Experience	15
Favorite Team	VANCOUVER
Interests/Hobbies	HOCKEY & GOLF


What I like best about playing hockey:
Friends I've made spending time with teammates

Future Goals: To graduate college




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Mountain View Colts profiles




Jason Haffner

Age	20
Weight	180 lbs
Height	5'10"
Position	CENTRE
Years of Experience	6 YEARS
Favorite Team	TORONTO
Interests/Hobbies	DRAG RACING

What I like best about playing hockey:
The game itself

Future Goals: Let dad retire



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By Wally Brower

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So we can enjoy them better,
For watching them in the cool evening
We often need a sweater.

The summer wanes, so do the rains,
For fall is drawing nigh,
Now leaves of every colour and hue
Fall from the trees on high.

November comes and snowflakes fall,
One foot, now two, now three.
We put out feed for moose, elk and deer,
All the others hibernate you see.

We've retired with fire wood and food
Canned fruits and game in our shack.
With TV, good books and our holy Bible
There is nothing we now lack.

Canadians do well at NFR

By Barry Williams

It was a tough ride for local cowboys at the Ntional Finals Rodeo from Dec. 3-12, held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Canadian Professional Rodeo Association bull riding champion Robbie Bell of Water Valley and Olds bareback rider Bill Boyd were among the twelve Canadians participating at the world championship rodeo.

Water Valley saddle bronc rider Glen O'Neill qualified for the NFR but a leg injury sustained at the recent Canadian Finals Rodeo kept him out of action at the 4.4 million dollar rodeo extravaganza.

After a four year drought of participating at the NFR, Boyd qualified for his fifth ride in Las Vegas, while Bell is experiencing his first attempt at claiming a world championship.

Besides the area cowboys competing at the NFR, area stock contractor Harvey Northcott, of Caroline, has a pen of stock in Las Vegas including Canadian bull of the year Raisin Cain and former NFR horse of the year Wyatt Earp Skoal.

Riding in the most extreme event of rodeo, bull riding, Bell like most bull riders through the ten rounds of competition found the challenge of the bulls a little too much as only twenty bull riders managed to stay on their raging mounts for the qualified eight seconds. Bell had only two qualified rides. His most memorable ride came in the fourth round when he marked an 85 first place by riding Bailey's Copenhagen

West. For his effort aboard the rank beast Bell neatly tucked \$12,902 in his wallet.

Heading into the world finals rodeo, Bell was in the groove as he had just won the 1999 Canadian bull riding championship earlier in November at the Canadian Finals Rodeo.

Meanwhile, Boyd experienced difficulty in spurring his way to the pay window as he failed to tuck any significant cash in his Wrangler jeans.

Records were falling like rain at this year's NFR as two records were broken.

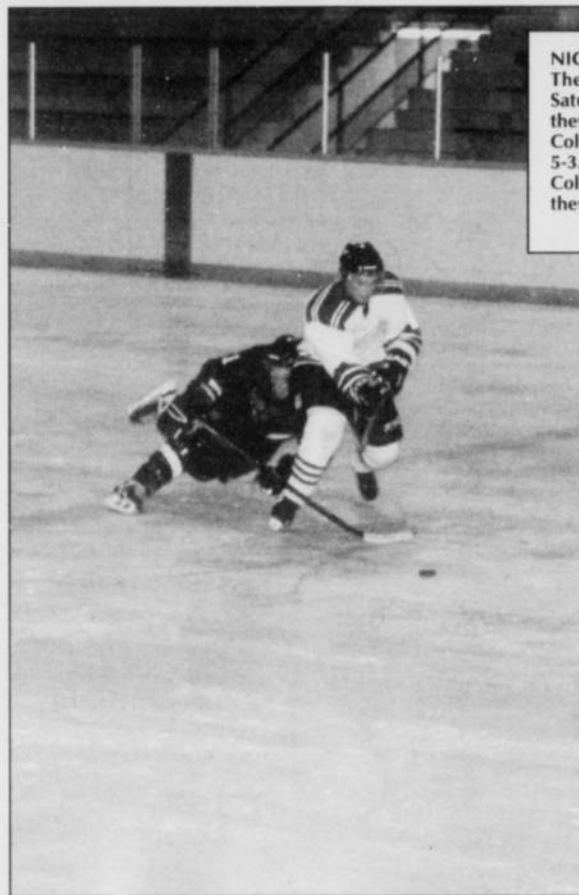
Bull rider Mike White added his name to rodeo's history book as he matched a 23 year old Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association record by

spurring out 95 points in third round competition. The last bull rider to score a 95 at the NFR was Leon Gay way back in 1976.

Meanwhile, two time world saddle bronc riding champion, Billy Etbauer broke an arena record by spurring out 90 points aboard Cervi's bronc Skoal Rio Bravo.

Calgary steer wrestler Lee Graves, the Crown Royal PRCA event leader heading into the NFR Lee Graves of Calgary led the steer wrestling world standings, while Rod Hay of Wildwood Alta, topped all saddle bronc riders.

The 4.4 million NFR concluded on Dec. 10 when seven world champions were crowned.



NICE TRY

There was intense action at last Saturday's Colts home game, when they took on the West Stars. The Colts came out on top with a score of 5-3. The next home action for the Colts will be Dec. 18 at 8 p.m., when they play host to Okotoks.

Photo by Colleen Horrigan

Home Selling Tip:

Unclutter and create space! Clutter makes a home seem smaller and therefore less desirable. Closets are particularly important. Consider installing closet organizers and "expanding" closet space. I can give you more specific tips on how to easily unclutter your home and make it more sellable, so call me now!



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Hoodfan

Janssen
Magic Chef
Mattress
Maytag
McClary
Microwave
Moffitt

Panasonic
Range
Refrigerator
Spring
Stainless Steel
Starchoice
Turntable
Washer

ENTER to WIN

This Week's Draw!

Drop off the completed puzzle
at Didsbury Appliance Center
#5, 2024, 17th Ave.

WIN a 3 Speed Hand Mixer

*No purchase necessary
(Draw date is Mon., December 20, 1999)

PLUS an added BONUS!

Your entry will then be automatically entered into the
main draw for our GRAND PRIZE of:
**\$200 Christmas Food Voucher
and a Christmas Turkey!**

compliments of the AG Foods and The Didsbury Review.
DRAW DATE: Monday, December 20, 1999.

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

RE/MAX 1906 - 20 street
didsbury 335-3377
real estate (mountain view) ltd. 24 hrs

Jim Myhre
Give me a call for all your real estate needs

3 Bedroom Bi Level in quiet area of Didsbury
Price reduced **\$99,000**

Fully Renovated Bungalow
3 bedroom, including a huge master suite,
main floor laundry, detached garage, Realtor owned
\$119,000

The winner of
Didsbury Main Street
is
Dorothy Gilling
of Didsbury

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements:

Anniversary,
Births,
Birthday,
Engagement,
Weddings
Obituaries
Card of Thanks
Prayer Corner
Memoriam
Graduation

You can now place your
LOST & FOUND ADS
FREE
in the Didsbury Review!

BIRTHDAYS

Someone we know is turning 40,
He's tall, dark and really quite sporty!
He's usually seen with a club or a whistle,
When he's not on the golf course, he's at the arena.
Whether he's being a golfer, a ref, or a pastor,
Now that he's 40 it'll be hard to go faster!
Our rhyming's not perfect, our words may sound silly,
But we don't want our message to sound willy-nilly,
On Dec. 18, just before Christmas,
We send out this wish,
Happy Birthday, John Lucas!

MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY of Kelly Christiansen, who passed away Dec. 15, 1991.
May the winds blow gently
Whispering as you'll hear
That we will always love and miss you
And wish that you were here.
Your resting place we visit and
Put flowers there with care,
But no one knows the heartache
As we turn and leave you there.
It's lonely here, without you Kelly
We miss you more each day,
For life is not the same for us
Since you were called away.
Always remembered and sadly missed
and loved forever, Grandma Milne.

CARDS OF THANKS

I WISH TO thank my family and friends for the flowers and get well cards while I was in the hospital. Marie Papke.
THANKS! A great big thanks to all my family and friends who made my 90th birthday party such a heart-warming occasion: the 5-0 Singers, my niece Doreen Allen and her pianist Verna Allenspach, Pam Whitlow and Sharon Israelson for their flashback on our school classes, my grandchildren (who think I'm not old) and to the many others who helped. It's wonderful to receive so many cards and well wishes. Thanks to all, and may God bless! Hazel Youngs.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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Phone: (403) 335-3301
Fax: (403) 335-8143

07 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FARMERS: Profits growing herbs and special crops. Learn what to grow and how to sell. Workshop Dec. 18, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., only \$99. partners \$49. includes hot lunch. Limited seating. Reservations call 1-888-802-4407.

awna

UP TO \$30,000. or more per month. Canada's fastest growing concept in this billion dollar industry will be opening stores in your area. \$117,000. turn-key. Toll free 1-877-266-8768. awna

AGENT SEEKS local person to service an explosive and revolutionary, new "KNORR" food product line. No selling. Part-time/full-time. Secured minimum investment of \$7900. required. Unlimited income. Gourmet Express 1-800-876-6843 (24 hours). awna
EARN BIG \$ in imports/exports. It's easy. Worldwide contacts, products, manufacturers, agents, brokers, available. Manual and course only \$84.95. Toll free 1-877-895-5096. awna

RURAL AREA gets wired. Make the world wide web a reality to people and businesses in your area. Fast paced, fun, educational and profitable. Contact Ken 1-800-561-0696. awna

08 CAREER TRAINING

BE A SUCCESSFUL Writer. Write for money and pleasure with our unique home-study course. You get individual tuition from professional writers on all aspects of writing - romances, short stories, radio and TV scripts, articles and children's stories. Send today for our free book. Toll free 1-800-267-1829, fax 1-613-749-9551. The Writing School, 3331 - 38 McArthur Ave., Ottawa, ON, K1L 6R2. awna

DRILLING RIG pre-employment training program. Drilling industry seeks trained personnel for rig work. We offer 3 week training programs; student loans available, \$1775. Petroleum Industry Training Service 1-800-387-4976. awna

LAKELAND COLLEGE features programs in agricultural sciences, business and computer studies, environmental sciences, human services, liberal and performing arts, and trades and technology. Campuses in Vermilion, Alberta and Lloydminster, AB/SK. Phone 1-800-661-6490 or apply on-line at www.lakeland.ab.ca. awna
COUNSELLOR TRAINING Institute of Canada offers on-campus and correspondence courses toward a diploma in counselling practice to begin this month. Free catalogue, call 24 hours, 1-800-665-7044. awna

13 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

HELP WANTED

F/T Bookkeeper/ Secretary. Preference given to applicants with Simply, Excel, Word experience. Please state salary expectation.

Send resume to:
Bookkeeping
Box 670,
Didsbury, AB
T0M 0W0
35-2t

JOURNEYMAN mechanic wanted. Apply at Ron's Automotive Repair or phone 335-8784. 36-3t

EXPERIENCED cook required. Apply to Peter at Macy's Restaurant (Didsbury). 335-3390. 36-2t

CHRYSLER DEALERSHIP requires two 4th year or licensed technicians with Chrysler experience. We provide excellent payplan in team oriented workplace. Fax resume immediately: 403-678-5208. awna

VACUUM TRUCK OPERATORS. Jade Oilfield Service Ltd. requires experienced operators for Alberta and Saskatchewan. Competitive salary with benefits. Qualifications: Class 3A vacuum truck and/or drilling rig experience. Mechanical knowledge of heavy truck/equipment. Ability to be away from home for up to 3 weeks. Fax resume with references to 306-778-3305. awna

LAC LA BICHE District Natural Gas Co-op has an immediate opening for a full-time service person. Qualified gasfitter with RMO and utility certification would be preferred. Only applicants interviewed receive response. Please submit resume by Dec. 20/99: Box 1050, Lac La Biche, AB, T0A 2C0. Fax 780-623-4900. awna

SERVICE TECHNICIAN required immediately for ag dealership. Minimum 3rd year apprentice journeyman or equivalent required. Competitive wages, incentives, and benefit package. Send resume to: Novlan Brothers Sales, Box 89, Paradise Hill, Sask., S0M 2G0. Attention: Beth Guy. 306-344-2075. awna

EXPERIENCED HANDS to fill various positions on drilling rigs (toolpushers, drillers, derrickhands, and motorhands). Send resume to: Attention: Human Resources, Box 1090, Brooks, AB, T1R 1B9. awna

SERVICE TECHNICIAN - If you are a 4th year or journeyman technician with GM experience, are committed to superior customer and work well in a team environment. We can offer you a position with superior training, excellent salary, benefits, and bonus structure, a top notch facility and equipment, and a service team that is committed to your success. Contact Barry Brown in confidence at Ulmer Chev Olds, 2101 - 50 Ave., Lloydminster, SK, S9V 1Z7. 306-825-8866 or fax 306-825-2099. awna

DRIVERS WANTED for Whitecourt and area. Must have one year tank truck experience, clean Class 1 licence, TDG, WHMIS and H2S, First aid is an asset. Must have mechanical knowledge and be able to work without supervision. Excellent wages, full benefit package, and retirement program. Fax resume to 780-778-8798. awna

BUSY SERVICE RIG company is now taking applications for floorhand and derrickhand positions. Pre med may be required. Fax resume to 780-384-3007. awna

BOUNDARY FORD and RV Sales, Lloydminster requires RV Sales Manager to sell exclusive Fleetwood products. Remuneration on experience, full benefit package. Contact: Warren Lux or Rick Graff 1-800-561-4481. awna
SIGN ON BONUS. CoolX Ltd. has an immediate requirement for professional drivers based in Western Canada. Driver requirements: Class 1 license, 2 years minimum experience, must be able to run U.S., good abstract, positive attitude. Calgary, Northern Alberta and BC call Len for appointment (toll free) 1-877-207-1101; cell 403-660-3952. Southern Alberta/Sask. call Daryl 1-877-207-1101; cell 403-540-8421.

AGRIVENTURE run by International Agricultural Exchange - Ages 18 - 30 with agricultural experience to live/work with family in Australia, New Zealand, Europe. Costs/details 1-800-263-1827 or www.agrventure.com.

HIGH VOLUME bakery in Drumheller, Alberta requires talented and experienced Bakery Manager. Outstanding pay and full benefits. Apply via fax, 403-823-3698 or phone Darren, 403-823-5555 or e-mail at: Thompson68@hotmail.com. awna
CANMORE GARDEN MARKETIGA has positions available for Department Head in meat department, deli and grocery. Bakery positions also available. Please send applications to: Pat Roach, #2, 950 Railway Ave., Canmore, AB, T1W 1P4. awna

02 AUCTIONS

COWBOY COUNTRY AUCTION, Dec. 27, 10 a.m. Hanna Native and Western Heritage Teams Cutters Show Wagons and Harness. Contact Lloyd's Auction, phone/fax: 403-854-2481. Website: lloyds-auction.com/. awna

04 AUTOS

1989 CHEV half ton truck for sale. Propane and gas. Good gas mileage, custom bucket seats and good tires. Asking \$3950 obo. Call 335-8657 or 335-4886. 35-2t

FOR SALE: 1988 Ford Ranger. Call Neil at 335-2375. 36-2t

FOR SALE: 1989 Ford 250 4x4 supercab, 460 motor, dual fuel. Excellent running condition. Asking \$6,000 or best offer. Phone 556-6542 or 335-6201. 38-4t

WANT TO SELL your 1994 or newer 4 X 4 truck or sport utility? We buy clean low/average mileage 4 X 4 trucks and sport utilities. Nafta Trading 1-800-791-8120. awna

07 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

STARTING OR EXPANDING your business? Call The Business Link Business Service Centre for direction to Alberta business information and services. Toll free 1-800-272-9675, Edmonton 780-422-7722. awna

LAUNDROMATS make money. Do you want to work for yourself? A proven successful background in machinery layout, design, and construction of laundromats. Financing available. 1-877-959-9299. awna

07 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

SAWMILL AND BACKHOE business for sale. Trucks, backhoe, bobcat, trailer, miscellaneous tools and 3 phase sawmill. Letter of Timber Guarantee included. 1-780-649-3999, Greg Beeson. awna

A LITTLE BIT of land, a lot of work, a lot of return growing St. Johnswort and Echinacea. For information call Dan 780-909-1634. awna

FOR SALE: Macleods True Value V&S department store combo, Three Hills, Alberta. 5500 sq. ft., strip mall location. Good growth potential in a busy full service community. Profitable! 1-800-665-5085. awna

EXCLUSIVE OFFER for contractor/homebuilders. Beaver Plastics offers exclusivity for patented, thermally efficient Insulwall wall system, standard frame construction. Expanded polystyrene, non-fibrous, hypoallergenic. No off-gassing, settling, in wall cavity. Serve environmentally sensitive, performance oriented home buyers. Call 1-888-453-5961. awna

THE ANTIAGING and essential oil markets are exploding. Create an incredible Lifetime Income introducing others to what experts are calling "Mans Next Medicine". Free information pack, 24 hours, 1-877-949-2572. awna
CREATE AN INCREDIBLE Lifetime Income introducing others to what experts are calling "Man's next Medicine". Free audio tape and information. 1-888-465-1418. awna

CLASSIFIEDS

13 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

JOURNEYMAN TECHNICIANS required by rural Ford dealership under new ownership. Located half hour north of Calgary. Competitive wages, excellent benefits. Send resume: Denham Carstairs Ford, Box 640, Carstairs, AB, T0M 0N0. Fax 403-337-3104. Attention: Rob. awna

AUTOMOTIVE SALES REP required immediately for busy dealership in north eastern Alberta. Experience an asset, but not necessary. Training program available. Great benefits package. Fax resume to Tarrabain Motors 780-623-3412. Attention: Dan or call 1-800-310-4334. awna

FOUNTAIN TIRE in Viking, Alberta. Looking for an experienced service truck operator. Phone 780-336-3112. awna

PTI SERVICES is looking for people to join our team. Cooks, cook's helpers, camp attendants. Previous experience preferred but not essential. Fax resume to 780-462-6784. awna

FOUNTAIN TIRE, Peace River, Alberta requires licensed or apprentice auto mechanic. Earn excellent wages and receive full company benefits. No flat rate. Fax resume 780-624-3314 or mail to: 9506-94 Ave., T8S 1J1. awna

AWARD-WINNING TWICE weekly newspaper on beautiful Vancouver Island requires an experienced reporter/photographer with the ability to write quickly and meet tight deadlines. Successful applicant must have post-secondary journalism education, own a vehicle and be familiar with Macintosh computers. Send resume to: Dave MacDonald, Publisher, Comox Valley Echo, 407-D Fifth St., Courtenay, BC, V9N 1J7. Fax to: 250-334-3172; or e-mail to: echo@mars.ark.com. No phone calls please. awna

15 EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

GENERATOR LIQUIDATION SALE. 2500 watt Honda 6 hp engine, Meccalte alternator. Heavy duty construction grade. Safety shut down, circuit breaker, electronic ignition. Limited quantities. \$850. 306-242-7644. awna

16 FARM MACHINERY

INTERNATIONAL tractor B-275 diesel. Comes with 5' mower, cultivator and blade. Asking \$6,000. Call Mark at 335-4731. 35-1t

JD 750 GRINDER-Mixer. Excellent shape. Always shedded. Idle past six years. \$4,999 obo. Phone 335-4185. 35-1t

17 FEED AND SEED

FOR SALE - 4' X 4' X 8' big square bales. 1st cut alfalfa and Bromo. No rain. 1st 100 kilometres delivered free. Wheat and barley straw available. Phone 403-224-3810 or 403-224-2591. Bowden, Alberta. awna

FOR SALE round alfalfa and grass mix hay, also straw. Buying good hay and straw. Delivery available. Phone 780-349-5067. awna

BUYING: Heated or light feed grains. Barley, oats, wheat, peas, chickpeas and sample canola on farm pick-up. 1-877-250-5252 Western Feed & Grain.

PRIVATE DISPERSAL. 150 bred cows and heifers \$1350. U-pick. Hay and Greenfeed \$15. - \$40. 403-932-5442.

HAY FOR SALE. No rain. Round J.D. #535 bales, crested wheat and alfalfa mix. \$50. per ton. Phone Eric 403-326-2199, Chinook, Alberta. awna

18 FOR RENT

DIDSBURY MANOR
1706-22 Ave.
3 Bdr. Townhouses
Private Yard,
W/D Hookups, \$600/mth.
Call 335-4762

HOUSE IN country for rent. Zella area. Four bedroom complete with stove, fridge and garage. Available Jan. 1, 2000. If interested, call (403) 289-3101. 35-2t

DIDSBURY: Three bedroom apartment, spacious, clean, quiet. 1 1/2 baths, fenced yard. No dogs. \$500/mth. Available immediately. Phone 335-8772. 35-2t

FOR RENT: Two bedroom apt. close to downtown. \$575, includes utilities. \$575 DD. No pets please. Three bedroom house on large lot. Newly renovated. \$650 plus utilities. No pets. Centrally located. Call Daphne at 335-8930. 37-4t

19 FOR SALE

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Dry pine, split and delivered within local area. By cord or half cord. Phone 335-3548. 35-2t

FOR SALE: Loveseat, new, \$400. Sofa and chair, used, \$125. Noma snowblower, \$80. Call 335-1998. 36-2t

LIKE NEW! 2HP electric folding treadmill. \$950 new. Asking \$650 obo. 335-3210. 35-1t

SAWMILL \$4895. Saw logs into boards, planks, beams. Large capacity. Best sawmill value anywhere. Norwood Industries, manufacturer of sawmills, edgers and skidders. Free information 1-800-566-6899. awna

BROOKS & DUNN and Lonestar Premier Tickets: April 27 in Edmonton or April 28 in Calgary. From \$99. Each. These tickets are for rural Alberta fans only. Call Just Tickets 1-800-304-4321. awna

HOME THEATER LIQUIDATION! For no money down and only \$99/month, it's like having a movie theater in your own home. First 50 callers receive free satellite dish! Free satellite dish with purchase. Toll free 1-888-528-8818. awna

GENERATORS now in stock. Tractor PTO drive. Example: 25KW \$4,695. 40 KW \$6,062. Also, Robin-Subaru gasoline and diesel engine powered portable generators from 1800 to 12,000 watts. Renown Industries, 5608 - 94A St., Edmonton. 780-435-3447. 1-888-873-6696. awna

WANT HEALTH and dental protection? Alberta Blue Cross offers affordable coverage for individuals and families without health and dental benefits through an employer. We also have plans that provide extra benefits for Alberta seniors. For more information, call today toll-free, 1-800-394-1965. awna

40' X 60' X 14' FARM shop, straight wall, galvalume cladding, \$12,800. Coloured cladding, doors, windows, labour and freight extra. Master-Craft 2000 Ltd., 1-800-822-1836. Calgary 1-403-269-4117. awna

HENNY PENNY LCS-6 Combi Oven and accessories. One year old. Latest technology. Very suitable for restaurants, convenience stores and food caterers. Phone 1-800-388-1163. awna

TRAPPERS - HUNTERS. Catalogue; fishing, hunting, trapping videos, books, Hawbakers lures, traps, hunting scents, supplies. Send \$3.50: Canadian Trading Post, Box 71033, Burlington, ON, L7T 4J8. 905-637-6373. awna

19 FOR SALE

SNOWMOBILE enthusiasts, businesses and fun-seekers meet at www.wintertails.com. Join tr@ilnotes, plan trips, view snow-cams or buy a sled. Click on us today! awna

25 LIVESTOCK FOR SALE
BISON. Entire Dispersal of 98 and 99 bison heifers. Quiet, healthy, dark coloured stock from a closed herd. Phone Wayne at 780-542-4877 or e-mail: sodacrik@telusplanet.net. awna

FOR SALE: Kathahdin Sheep, dual registered quality ewes, lambs, and rams. Phone 403-379-2320, evenings. awna

FOR THE EXTRA ordinary Christmas present, why not a cute cuddly miniature donkey or a cute llama. We have all colours and sizes. Phone 403-887-2285. awna

27 LOST AND FOUND
ONE CHAROLAIS-cross heifer with yellow eartag. Weighs 600 lbs. Neapolis area. Phone 335-4066. 36-2t

28 MANUFACTURED HOMES

FOR SALE: 1996 Shelter, 16x80, 3 bdm, 2 bath, must be moved by Dec. 15. 1984 Glen River, 16x72, 3 bdm, 1 bath, front kitchen and dining room. 1981, 16x72, 3 bdm, 2 bath (renovated). 1982 General, 14x74, 3 bdm, 1 bath, with additions, asphalt roof. 1987 ATCO 14x70, 3 bdm, 1 bath (renovated), has 6" walls, asphalt roof with wood burning heater. 1977 M&B Co, 14x70, 2 bdm, 1 1/2 bath, patio doors, asphalt roof. We deliver within 100 miles of Red Deer. Call Merv at (403) 350-0542 days or (403) 347-8942. 35-2t

\$56,900., 16' X 80', fireplace, jacuzzi, fridge with icemaker, self-clean oven, dishwasher, built-in microwave, washer/dryer, buffet hutch, cathedral ceiling, carpet throughout. Delivered, blocked, skirted. Pleasant Homes, 780-962-0238. awna

\$1,000. CASH BACK when you buy a new 1216 sq. ft. home in Parkland Village. Plus \$3,600. site rent incentives. Own new for less! 780-962-0403. www.parklandvillage.com.

GET YOUR XMAS bonus early. Get a home from Alberta Custom Homes and save a bundle. Clearing all homes. We're by Woodys RV, Red Deer, 1-800-347-5590. awna

WESTALTA OFFERS up to \$5,000. cash back O.A.C. plus: order now and we'll hold the prices at 1999 levels so you can save even more! Call 1-888-937-8111 today. awna

2000 MODELS on display. Selection of 16 wides and modulars. New floor plans and decor. Immediate delivery or spring of 2000. Price guarantees. 1-800-463-0084, Jandel Homes. awna

ACT NOW. Massive Liquidation Sale on all inventory. Prices slashed. Delivered anywhere in Alberta. Call Ridgewood Homes for full details, Red Deer, 1-800-797-5714; Calgary, 1-800-797-5717; Edmonton, 1-780-470-5660 (collect). awna

1986 THREE BEDROOM, 2 bath, 16' X 74', cathedral (beams) ceiling, great kitchen, 3 appliances. Available January 1. Won't last! \$29,800. Roger 403-948-4844; 403-240-2993. awna

29 MISCELLANEOUS

\$NEED MONEY\$ call 780-452-5858. Immediate approval. Debt consolidation, farm, acreage, city, home and mobile purchase. Interim financing. Consolidated Mortgages Ltd. Members of BBB. awna

NEED MONEY? Borrowers wanted. Over the phone approval. Equity loans for any purpose. Bank turn downs, bankruptcy accepted. Money within hours. 780-960-3055, Provincial Mortgage Ltd. awna

Specials On HOT TUBS & SATELLITES

All sizes of hot tubs & satellites including 18" RCA VCII + Boards & Programming
Rip Van Winkles
Olds 556-6616
10-yr

31 NOTICES

STOLEN: 2 HORSES from Lakeside Feedlot. Bay Gelding 15HH, approx. 1200 lbs., white saddle sores both sides. Sorrell Gelding 15.3HH approx. 1250 lbs. Both have two back white socks, blaze on face. Anyone with information please notify Chris Sparrow, Lakeside Feeders, 403-362-3326. awna

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

Estate of **Garnett Howard Brown**, who died on **November 24, 1999.**

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by January 22, 2000 and provide details of your claim with:

Vernon E. Good
Barrister & Solicitor
Solicitor for the Personal Representative
at 2nd Floor,
2012 - 20th St.,
Box 1027,
Didsbury, AB T0M 0W0

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have. 36-2t

33 PERSONALS

DIET! LOSE weight like crazy! Inches and cellulite will disappear. All natural, 100% safe. Call 24 hours: 1-800-411-5493. awna

COUNTRY LIFE Introductions. Find your Millennium Lifemate now! Quality introductions, personal service guaranteed. 780-542-4177 Drayton Valley; 403-946-5579 Calgary area; 403-887-0209 Red Deer area; 780-675-5404 Athabasca. awna

34 PETS

ROTTWEILER PUPPIES! Are you looking for a guaranteed, excellent quality pet for your family? Or a show quality dog? CKC registered, guaranteed, vet checked and vaccinated. Excellent lineage and excellent temperaments - guaranteed! Call Dee 403-556-5479 or 403-335-3519. awna

35 REAL ESTATE

MIXED FARM, east central Alberta. 1981, 1387 sq. ft. bungalow. Eleven deeded, six leased quarters, crop and pastureland. Modern buildings, good water. Ron or Connie 403-552-2286.

36 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

REC VEHICLES Top Dollar paid for used RVs (clean & good condition) Complete parts & service (service & warranty to all makes and models). New & used RV sales. RV Hail Damage Repair Specialists. Complete repair and parts service for horse and stock trailers. Phone for estimates. OLDS Leisure Products Ltd. 556-7200.

TOP DOLLAR PAID for late model RVs. We will pay you immediately for late model, good condition, clean RVs. Woody's RV World, Calgary. 1-800-531-4695, 403-240-1212. awna

EASY CASH for your used RV. Instant and hassle free. (1984 or newer). 403-341-5554. (Call collect and save). Capital R.V., 1780 - 49 Ave., Red Deer.

39 SERVICES

WILL DO fibreglass and plastic repairs on truck toppers, tractor parts, equipment parts, snowmobile and quad parts. Call George evenings and weekends at 335-8412. 36-4t

KIDS CAN SEW!

Fun and easy sewing lessons for kids aged 8 and up. Classes begin week of Jan. 10. Daytime classes available for homeschoolers.

For more info phone
Mel Terpstra
at 335-3527. 36-2t

CRIMINAL RECORD? Canadian pardon seals record. U.S. waiver removes risk of arrest, deportation, property confiscation. Canadian/U.S. immigration agents. 1-800-347-2540. Uncontested Divorce? Separation Agreements? Incorporation? Fast, simple, inexpensive. 1-800-320-2477. awna

43 TRAVEL

XMAS AT BIG WHITE - from \$99/night, deluxe and luxury ski condos, studio - 4 bedroom and loft, ski in/out, hot tubs. Early bird - Dec. 3 - 16. From \$52/night. 1-888-676-9977 or www.condosunlimited.com. awna

KIMBERLEY BC New Slopeside Ski and Golf Chalets. 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms with loft, hot tubs, fireplaces, garages. Sales 1-877-5-CHALETs. Rentals 1-877-600-8001; www.copperspringchalets.com; www.northstarchalets.com. awna

THE KIMBERLEY ALPINE Resort has a new high speed quad, more runs more terrain, more vertical (2,465 ft.) and four new luxurious on-mountain properties. Kimberley Vacations' ski and stay packages start at \$73./adult (downtown) or \$79./adult (on-mountain). Christmas and New Year's space still available. Package restrictions apply. To book call 1-800-667-0871. **TIMESHARE RESALES.** To buy, sell or rent worldwide. World's largest reseller. ERA Stroman since 1979. Buyers call 1-800-613-7987. Sellers call 1-800-201-0864. Internet: www.stroman.com. awna

44 WANTED

WANTED RESTAURANT. With/without property. Purchase or lease. I'm not an agent. Prefer private. Respect to: receivers, realtors, hoteliers, bankruptcy. Fax 305-832-4635. E-mail: jimmysbeachbar@hotmail.com. Write: J McLean, 141-6200 McKay, Suite 195, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4M9. **WANTED TO BUY - Ford Extra cab** or crew cab diesel. 250-371-2129. awna

The Program

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EVENTS



Feel the MUSIC!



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Didsbury 335-8563
Piano • Guitar • Keyboard • Theory

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2017A - 19 AVENUE
DIDSBURY, ALBERTA

PHONE (403) 335-3374
FAX (403) 335-8143

"For All Your Printing Needs"

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIDSBURY

Christmas Break

Parents Break for X-Mas shopping. Didsbury Pathfinders/Rangers will babysit your child at the Didsbury Train Station while you shop on Dec. 18 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Must pre-register before Dec. 15. Call Wilma at 335-9464 evenings or Lori at 556-1777 days.

Christmas Concert

Westcott Community Club Christmas Concert will be Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. Potluck dessert. Santa's coming. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Mass

St. Anthony's Catholic Church Christmas Eve Mass in the Multi-Purpose Room at 8 p.m. on Dec. 24.

DIDSBURY

Lights Tour

Come and enjoy the wonder of the lights on the Didsbury Lions Bus. Tours leave Victoria Square Mall on Dec. 20 at 6 and 8 p.m. and Dec. 23 at 7 p.m. Approx. two hours long. Cost is \$5 per person. Tickets purchased at Aurora Travel. First come - first serve basis.

Rosebud Concert

The annual Rosebud Christmas Concert will be Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. at Rosebud Hall. Potluck supper. Bring a main dish and a salad or dessert. Santa will visit. A money tree in honour of Karlea (Mullen) and Ryan Berg's marriage will be available.

DIDSBURY

Live Nativity

"Our Gift to You" The Redeemer Lutheran Annual Live Nativity will be held Dec. 21-23 at 7:45 p.m. each night at the Redeemer Lutheran Church (corner of 1500 and 23rd St.) Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall immediately following the event. For more info call 335-3161 or 335-3181.

Place your ad for a non-profit organization on the Program Page for free.

Ads must be less than 20 words. Call the Didsbury Review before Fridays at noon at 335-3301.

ONGOING EVENTS

CARSTAIRS

RECYCLING DEPOT

Carstairs Lion's Recycling Depot is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

CARSTAIRS T.O.P.S.

(Take Off Pounds Sensibly) welcomes new members. Meetings 7 p.m. Monday evenings at Carstairs Church of God. For info call Jean 637-3753, Darlene 946-4369 or Natalie 337-2351.

DIDSBURY

HALL WALKING

Adults are invited to walk in the Westgren School corridors from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., Monday through Thursday for fun and fitness.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

General Meeting-Second Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m. supper, 7 p.m. meeting 335-3265 RSVP

DIDSBURY TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly! Come and join us every Wednesday evening. For more info call Bev at 335-9803 or Kirsten 335-3370.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Didsbury Environmental Advisory Board meets once every two months at the Town Office. For info, call Wes at the Town Office at 335-3391

TOY LIBRARY

Kidding Around Parents Club Toy Library: As of July 1, open Saturdays 10 - 11:30 a.m. and Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Anglican Church Hall basement 2037 - 24 Ave. New members always welcome. Linda at 335-5868. Will be closed Dec. 18 to Jan. 18.

AA

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Fridays 8:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, Didsbury, 20 Ave. and 21 St. For information call Roxanne at 335-8322 or Rick at 335-9525.

TIME OUT

Mom's Time Out and Dads Too. We meet Monday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (excluding holidays) Nominal babysitting fee. Redeemer Lutheran Church. Ph. 335-9928.

KING HIRAM LODGE

King Hiram Lodge #21 has its regular meetings at 8 p.m. every 2nd Tuesday of the month. For info, call Hans Lucas at 337-2250.

O.E.S. MEETING

St. Hilda Chapter #27 O.E.S. has its regular meetings at 8:00 p.m. every 3rd Tuesday of the month. For info, call Marge Stecker at 335-4281

SONS OF NORWAY

Sons of Norway meets the 4th Monday of every month at 8 p.m. at Evergreen Centre in Olds. All welcome. Call 556-2401 or 337-2037 for more information.

DIDSBURY

DIDSBURY MUSEUM

Everyone is welcome. We have lots to see, take a look back in history. Donations are always welcome. Admission is \$2/adults and children and members free. The Museum is open on Wed., Thurs. and Fri. from 2 - 5 p.m. weekly and 2-4 p.m. on Saturdays during July and Aug. We're located at 2118 - 21st Ave. For more info, call 335-9295 during office hours.

RECYCLING DEPOT

Didsbury Lions Recycle Centre open Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Accepting newspaper, office papers, magazines, junk mail, plastic milk jugs (please clean). Phone 335-8193. Use outside bins.

CASH BINGO

Didsbury Elks Cash Bingo every Tuesday. Doors open 6:00 p.m., Nickel Bingo at 6:45. Regular bingo at 7:30 p.m. Didsbury Elks Hall.

LIONS

Lions Handi Bus in town service Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Wheelchair accessible Call Lloyd Kenyon at 335-2363.

PLAYGROUP

An educational and social program for children 3-5 years is now accepting registrations for Sept. To register or for info call Cherrie at 335-8039 or 335-8818.

INFORMATION

Mountain View La Leche League, a group which offers information and support for breastfeeding mothers. We also meet the 3rd Tuesday evenings of each month. Phone 335-8864 or 335-2331 for information and meeting location.

BEAVER'S

Beaver's Monday 7 - 8 p.m. at Eldon Foote Hall. Kids 5 to 7 years old, boys and girls welcome.

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

Just Done For Fun out of school care program runs each school day at Ross Ford. For more information call 335-8168.

AL-ANON

Al-Anon meetings for families of alcoholics held every Friday. For more info call 335-3146 or 335-9787.

BRIDGE CLUB

Mountain View Bridge Club meets every Wednesday from 7-10 p.m. at the Masonic Star Hall, 2037-21 Avenue, Didsbury. All bridge players welcome! For more info: 335-8375 or 638-2757.

DIDSBURY

SUPPORT GROUP

ADD/ADHD Support Group. For parents and families dealing with attention deficit disorder. For more info call Sherree 335-8612.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. in education room (lower level) at Didsbury Hospital.

CREMONA

Al-Anon meetings for families of alcoholics held every Sunday. For more info call 337-2331

LONE PINE

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets every Friday at 9 a.m. at Lone Pine Hall. For information call Doreen at 335-4514.

OLDS

MEETING

Adoption Support Group of Olds and area meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month. For more information contact Susan at 335-8540.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Join the Mountain View Presenters (MVP) Toastmasters Club in Olds. Meetings every Tuesday at Olds College, Room 108, at 7 p.m. starting September 9. For further info, call Judy Dahl at 556-7119 or Malissa at 556-8520.

SUPPORT GROUP

Fibromyalgia Support Group 4th Thursday of every month, 7 p.m. at the Deer Meadow School, Olds. Contact Mel Terpstra 335-3527 for info.

A.D.D. SUPPORT

Learning Disabilities Association. Support, information, workshops, seminars, resource materials, films and tapes. Meets last Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. in Room 116 at Deer Meadows School in Olds. Contact Sam at 556-7614 eves. or Susan 335-3174

SUNDRE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Wednesdays, 8-9 p.m. in the basement of the Anglican Church. Ron 638-2736.

ALA TEEN

Ala Teen, Sundre United Church Basement, Wednesday 7:00 p.m. More info 638-3277.

AL-ANON

Al-Anon, Wednesdays. For more information call 638-3277 or 335-9787.

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These organizations would like to thank the DIDSBURY REVIEW as well as all the LOCAL BUSINESSES advertising on this page who together make this Community Calendar possible. Your support in providing this 'free of charge' service to all non-profit organizations is greatly appreciated.

Environmentally friendly gifts

From the Humane Society of Canada

Each year at this time every one of us is swept along by the spirit of giving and in many cases caught up in the frantic behaviour affectionately known as the "last minute shopper syndrome."

Despite our best intentions we may find ourselves spending too much money for gifts that perhaps we might otherwise not buy for friends and family.

This year, you may wish to plan ahead and have a Green Christmas and holiday season by looking out for gifts that help a wide range of social causes which provide help for people, animals and nature. Did you know that there are over 4 million households in Canada which own dogs and cats? Of that repeated national surveys have found that eight out of 10 Canadians support the protection of wildlife and their habitat. Armed with this new information, we can begin to explore the world of environmentally friendly gifts.

These gifts can include a wide spectrum ranging from

books, videos, computer games, calendars, and T-shirts to do-it-yourself kits on building a birdfeeder, ecotours, and special sponsorship gift projects to protect animals and nature.

For example, the Humane Society of Canada is launching its first-ever campaign asking Canadians to support a wide range of special projects that protect companion animals, endangered species and their habitat right here in Canada and around the world. The projects are carried out through field work, humane education, non-invasive scientific research and legislative initiatives. At this time of year, many people are also confused about whether or not to choose a real or an artificial Christmas tree.

While there are positive aspects in favour of either, my own personal preference is to select a real Christmas tree as we are able to completely recycle the tree into wood chips and firewood. You may wish to avoid excess packaging by wrapping presents in

newspaper. If you do use or receive presents in wrapping paper, carefully remove the bows, ribbons and paper and reuse them next year. Cut up old Christmas cards and use them as name tags. Recycle children's toys which are no longer in use and donate them along with food to a local charity.

Holidays are a favourite time for eating (as if we needed an excuse) and along with the traditional fare, household chefs are trying out a list of bold culinary experiments that even include, believe it or not, a vegetarian turkey!

As the year draws to a close we have an opportunity to reflect upon our past accomplishments and the challenges which lie ahead.

I have been privileged to work closely with many dedicated women, men and children working to create and sustain a truly "humane society." For those friends I have made, and those I have yet to meet, wishing you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

Keep Christmas from emptying your wallet

As the holiday season kicks into high gear, take a moment to stop and make a plan.

With a little planning, you can socialize, give gifts and even have a little fun decorating without going broke.

It's a sure way to keep the ho, ho spirit into the New Year and say goodbye to January bill payment blues.

Here are a few quick tips to get you started:

- Draw names. It's a great way to reduce costs and have the fun of giving.
 - Give a gift of time. Make a coupon for babysitting, snow shovelling or spring garden clean-up.
 - Think potluck. It's a fun, inexpensive way to entertain.
 - Look for low-cost activities - skating, cross-country skiing, or a video movie night.
 - Shorten your shopping trips. You'll be less tired and make better decisions.
 - Dare to be different. Decorate your tree with your children's toys.
 - Start planning for next year. Make a budget. Put a few dollars into a holiday savings account each month. By next November, you'll have your holiday fund.
- With a little imagination you can have your Christmas cake and eat it too.



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- ✓ Sweaters
- ✓ Polar Fleece Vests
- ✓ Leisure Suits
- ✓ Winter Footwear
- ✓ Dress Shoes
- ✓ Slippers
- ✓ Knitting Supplies
- ✓ Sewing Supplies
- ✓ Christmas Table Settings
- ✓ Mit & Toque Sets
- ✓ Lounge Wear
- ✓ Night Wear
- ✓ Tan Jay
- ✓ Alia
- ✓ Koret
- ✓ Tabi

For the Kids

- ✓ Tender Toes Footwear
- ✓ Christmas Dresses
- ✓ Harley Davidson Jackets
- ✓ Harley Davidson Suits
- ✓ Snow Suits
- ✓ Mit & Toque Sets
- ✓ Crinolins
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